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OPINION METER

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Have you visited or do
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of the Marianas festival
this month?

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INSIDE



Chief Priest

A Katori Jingu Shrine chief priest visits Saipan in preparation for the shrine's anniversary at Sugar King Park.

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Brokered Talks

Hopes rose Tuesday for an end to deadly mayhem in Thailand's capital.

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Military Ball

After three years, the CNMI MSU JROTC Military Ball is back.

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Delta to resume daily Nagoya flights next month. PAGE 3

Fitial to Interior's Salazar: Withdraw the OIA report

7 testify at US congressional hearing on federalization law

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has asked Interior Secretary Ken Salazar to withdraw the Office of Insular Affairs report recommending long-term immigration status for alien workers who have been in the CNMI for at least five years.



ON THE NET

<http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/>

Fitial's letter to Salazar was attached to his written testimony to the U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Areas, Oceans, and Wildlife on the implementation of a law that placed CNMI immigration under federal control.

The subcommittee held an oversight hearing on the implementation of Public Law See FITIAL on Page 4

eral immigration court on Saipan yesterday that she and many other students from China were cheated of their money to come

to the island and get U.S. visas.

Speaking through an interpreter, the woman said she arrived on Saipan on Jan. 22,

2009, and learned of many other Chinese nationals who also became victims after being prom-

See CHINESE on Page 4

RHC employees
want resident
chief ousted

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Rota Health Center employees signed a petition to remove Crispin Ayuyu as resident director of the center, but Ayuyu said yesterday that the petitioners' allegations are untrue and that they do not want to accept changes for the better.

Ayuyu, in a telephone interview, said many of the petitioners "do not want to be corrected" and "do not support the management" in implementing changes for a better working environment.

He cited, for example, employees reporting late for

See RHC on Page 4

Chinese woman says many were tricked into coming to Saipan

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A Chinese woman told the fed-



NURSES WEEK

Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez join nurses and other health professionals for a group photo right after Inos signed a proclamation declaring May 23 to 29 CNMI Nurses Week, on Capitol Hill yesterday morning. This year's theme is "Nurses: Caring Today for a Healthier Tomorrow." See story on Page 5.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

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Local

NMC Student Leadership Awards go to Rodriguez, Ferrer

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College will present the prestigious Student Leadership Award to two students at the 30th commencement ceremony this Saturday.

Miles Rodriguez, president of the Associated Students of the Northern Marianas College, and Roxanne Ferrer, president of the Phi Theta Kappa, were chosen to receive the award for their leadership skills, active participation in community events, and for excellent services to the college's student organizations.



Rodriguez



Ferrer

Rodriguez will be graduating with an associate degree in Nursing, while Ferrer will be conferred an associate degree in

Business Management.

"I am extremely honored to be receiving this award," said Rodriguez, who was recently certified

as a student leader by the National Conference and Leadership, a nationwide organization that has

See NMC on Page 4

Local, US citizen spouses of alien workers urged to support DOI's recommendations

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

More local and U.S. citizen spouses of foreign workers should come out and voice their support to the U.S. Department of the Interior's recommendations for improved immigration

status for long-term guest workers, according to Rabby Syed, one of the organizers of Sunday's motorcade and assembly.

Syed, who is president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that their motorcade and assembly showed that many locals and U.S. citizens support Interior's recommendations.

He said both Francisco Dela Cruz and Joe Torres were among the spouses of foreign workers who appeared at the event and voiced their support.

"My wife, a local, was there too," Syed said.

He said the spouses of foreign workers should consider the matter carefully.

Syed said the 2010 Unity

Core Group, which organized the motorcade, is very thankful to the many businesses that provided in-kind donations to the event.

He said they are asking Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo, chair of the U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Areas, Oceans, and Wildlife, to consider the plight of long-term alien workers.

"We don't have spokesperson at the hearing. We don't have resources to participate in the hearing," Syed said.

He said they hope that Bordallo will recognize that many people support Interior's recommendations, as shown by the numbers that participated in the motorcade and assembly.

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Delta to resume daily Nagoya flights next month

Limited funding, unstable air service main challenges of NMI tourism

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio disclosed yesterday that Delta Air Lines will reinstate its daily flights from Nagoya to Saipan next month, a bit of good news that would help boost visitor arrival numbers to the Commonwealth.

The carrier had suspended the same flight last April 5 due to low air seat demand from the destination.

The CNMI has been suffering from a significant reduction in airline seats from Japan since 2005 when Japan Airlines pulled out. Succeeding flight cuts by other signatory airlines further worsened air seat numbers from Japan.

During yesterday's presentation at the Saipan Rotary Club in Hyatt Regency Saipan, Tenorio cited limited marketing funds and unstable air seats as among the biggest challenges of the industry.

He said the CNMI only has \$1 million to promote the islands in other destinations. This is a piddling amount when compared with Australia, which spends \$12 million; Hawaii, which has \$9 million; and Guam, \$6 million.

He also pointed out the declining confidence in the CNMI within the travel industry because of the islands' unstable air service.

Tenorio emphasized the need for new market development to reduce risk exposure and market loss and to address the impact of federalization of immigration.

'2010 projections'

This fiscal year, which will end in September, MVA estimates

air seats from Japan to reach 257,252. Based on an 80-percent load factor, projected visitor arrivals is 205,801—a 2-percent decline from last year's.

For the Korea market, Tenorio projects a 36-percent growth in visitor arrival, with expected air seats at 157,858 based on an 80-percent load factor.

MVA recorded a total of 375,808 arrivals in fiscal year 2009, compared to the 726,690 tourist arrivals recorded in fiscal year 1997, considered the peak year of the CNMI tourism industry.

Airline support, coupled with effective promotions, will result in better tourist arrivals, Tenorio said.

"Tourism is the sole revenue and economic driver for the CNMI. Both the public and private sectors are dependent on the well-being of our tourism industry," he added.

Economic impact

Tenorio said the CNMI generates \$827 in direct impact for each Japanese tourist that comes in, on top of \$2,710 in indirect benefits.

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each visitor creates \$561 in direct impact for the CNMI and \$1,843 in indirect impact to the island's economy.

Chinese tourists bring the CNMI \$1,967 in direct impact and \$3,163 in indirect benefits to the economy.

Russian tourists belong to the group that brings the biggest impact to the economy because of their long stays on island. The direct impact per Russian visitor is \$4,323 while indirect impact reaches \$14,143 per person.

However, this number is shrinking due to global competition, Tenorio said.

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DLNR division's section reminds public of fishing, hunting rules

In conjunction with the Department of Public Safety's Law Enforcement Month, the Department of Lands & Natural Resources' Division of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Section wants to emphasize to the community the need to obey current fishing and hunting regulations.

The DLNR Division of

Fish and Wildlife's Enforcement Section also reminds the community of the posted Marine Protected Areas in CNMI waters. The community is encouraged to visit the division to learn more about hunting and fishing regulations and to obtain hunting and fishing licenses. These licenses become

effective on Jan. 1 of each year and expire on Dec. 31 of the same year.

The DLNR's Division of Fish and Wildlife's Enforcement Section continues its participation in this month's law enforcement activities as coordinated by the Department of Public Safety and other CNMI enforcement

agencies, including the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Enforcement Section.

A "Law Enforcement Month" proclamation was signed by Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, on Apr. 29, 2010, and concluded with a law enforcement motorcade. Other activities have been planned to celebrate Law Enforcement

Month, including the recently held Blue Mass at the San Jose Church in Saipan.

Yesterday, the CNMI's law enforcement officers, including the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Enforcement Section, participated in a daylong Law Enforcement Open House at the Multi-Purpose Center in

Susupe.

The division conducted an education/outreach presentation regarding fishing and hunting regulations, as well as demonstrations of equipment used to perform their duties.

Other law enforcement activities will follow in coming weeks. (PR)

FITIAL

From Page 1

110-229 at 3pm Tuesday in Washington, D.C., or 5am today in the CNMI.

The hearing was webcast live, and will be archived on the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee's Web site at <http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/>.

While Fitial and the CNMI Legislature want the Interior report withdrawn, thousands of nonresident workers and their supporters held a motorcade and peaceful assembly on Sunday, expressing their strong support for the Interior report and asking Congress to immediately act on the recommendations.

Five issues

The governor told Salazar that he and the CNMI Legislature have five "serious problems" with the Interior report, including the lack of "any effort to seek the views

of the Commonwealth governor as required by law."

Assistant Interior Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta personally handed copies of the Interior report to CNMI officials on April 30 on Saipan, some six hours after the federal agency submitted the report to the U.S. Congress.

Babauta said there had been consultations and hearings on the issues contained in the report both in the CNMI and in Washington, D.C.

Fitial, in his seven-page letter, also asked Salazar to direct that the data on which the report was based be shared with the CNMI, and to request one of the Interior secretary's deputies to oversee the preparation of another report in collaboration with the Commonwealth.

Fitial also asked Salazar to advise pertinent congressional committees of these actions.

"I can promise you that a joint effort by the Commonwealth and

your department to address the issues that the law specifies will be more complete, thoughtful, and fair than the report that was submitted under your name to the public and the congressional committees," Fitial told Salazar in a letter dated May 10, 2010.

No immediate statement from Interior on Fitial's letter could be obtained as of yesterday afternoon.

Fitial said he and the CNMI Legislature are also concerned about the report's data collection and analysis, which they describe as "seriously defective." He said the conclusions regarding the Commonwealth's economy and future need for foreign workers are rebutted by publicly available data and professional economic analysis.

He also said the report's authors failed to consider the potential impact of their recommendations on unemployed U.S. citizens in the CNMI and the ability of the CNMI to pro-

vide essential public services to its residents.

"The OIA report recommends unique immigration treatment for foreign workers in the Commonwealth that is not justified under any rationale; and any such change in status should be considered only in the context of overall immigration reform in the United States," Fitial said.

The Interior report recommends five options to grant long-term immigration status to foreign workers who have been legally residing in the CNMI for at least five years.

These include conferring outright U.S. citizenship to aliens by an act of Congress, granting them permanent residency status leading to U.S. citizenship, or granting them a status similar to that of Freely Associated States citizens.

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, reiterated that the worker groups respect the position

taken by the CNMI governor and the Legislature, but said it is now up to the U.S. Congress to act on the Interior report and recommendation.

Subcommittee hearing

The U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Areas, Oceans, and Wildlife hearing was specifically for the proposed visa waiver program for Russian and Chinese tourists to the CNMI, but CNMI officials said they will grab the opportunity to speak out against the Interior report.

The subcommittee, chaired by Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo, invited seven individuals to testify at the hearing.

Panel 1 included U.S. Government Accountability Office director for international affairs and trade Dr. David B. Gootnick; Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta; Guam Gov. Felix P. Camacho; and CNMI Gov. Be-

nigno R. Fitial.

Panel 2 included CNMI Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota); CNMI Rep. Frederick P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan); and Guam Visitors Bureau vice chairman Lamonte "Jim" J. Beighley.

The other CNMI officials who went to Washington, D.C. for the hearings were Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) and House Minority Leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan).

Along with Manglona and Deleon Guerrero, the lawmakers will present copies of the adopted House Joint Resolution 17-4, HS1, which opposes the Interior report and asks the U.S. Congress to direct Interior to consult with the CNMI governor.

The CNMI Women's Organization, a non-profit organization, also started an online petition "vehemently opposing" the Interior report. As of 4pm yesterday, the online petition had 566 signatures.

CHINESE

From Page 1

ised that they would be issued U.S. visas.

The woman was among many Chinese nationals the U.S. Department of Homeland Security wants removed from the Commonwealth.

DHS Immigration and Customs Enforcement assistant chief counsel Jeannette Park said the woman arrived on Saipan on Jan. 22, 2009, using a visitor entry permit. In October

2009, her permit was changed to a student permit.

On Jan. 5, 2010, the woman was among the 25 persons arrested for allegedly trying to sneak into Guam illegally, Park said, adding that the woman pleaded guilty in February 2010 and was sentenced to probation.

The woman told Los Angeles-based immigration judge Rose Peters that an American-Chinese tricked her into paying about 40,000 to 50,000 RMB (\$5,800 to \$7,300) just to come to Saipan. She also expressed belief that the federal govern-

ment had a hand in the elaborate scheme that landed her in jail.

"I was treated like a mafia by the U.S. government," she said, referring to her arrest in connection with the human smuggling case. "They told us that if we are smuggled to Guam, then we will get U.S. immigration status."

She said she believes she and other Chinese students would not have been victimized to come to the island had it not been without the collaboration of the federal government.

When asked to cite an ex-

ample of how federal agents committed crimes against her, the woman showed a piece of paper that, according to her, was an identification card issued by the Guam government.

"This [card] is valid for 10 years," she said. "Even the federal police cannot deny this."

When asked what the document is all about, the woman said a lawyer gave it to her. "This is the document to prove that federal agency tricked us to commit crime," she said.

The judge looked at the paper and admitted it as evidence.

Peters told the woman that she's accusing the U.S. government of committing crimes against her.

The woman said she entered the CNMI legally, but that her permit expired because federal agents detained her.

Peters advised the woman to see a lawyer or go to Immigration and ask if they could give her a permit to stay.

As the respondent could not make a definite decision, the judge stated that she finds the respondent removable as she has no valid visa to stay.

The woman, however, said she is scared to go back to China because of her conviction in the human smuggling case. The judge told her she may qualify for withholding of removal or for relief on convention against torture.

She gave the woman some documents that she needs to fill up and bring during the next hearing on Aug. 3, 2010 at 1pm.

Judge Peters has been holding immigration hearings on Saipan since Monday. The last hearing will be tomorrow, Thursday.

RHC

From Page 1

work, not timing in or out, and allowing other employees to time in or out for them, which Ayuyu said are violations of policies and regulations.

"I do not think the administration will entertain the petition I will call the employees in and we will have a meeting about their concerns. I have been here for four months and I have already made changes to improve the center," Ayuyu

told *Saipan Tribune*.

The petition, addressed to Rota Mayor Melchor A. Mendiola, accused Ayuyu of misconduct and dereliction of duties.

Rota Health Center has 45 employees, including the resident director. Twenty-nine of these employees signed the petition.

Mendiola did not return calls for comment. Ayuyu said it would be up to Mendiola to decide what to do with the petition.

The petition lists five concerns about Ayuyu, including

his alleged failure to enhance employee morale and motivation due to inappropriate direction and decisions, and unprofessional conduct displayed toward employees such as not treating them with respect.

Third, the petitioners said the resident director "shows no support for the divisions to perform their duties and responsibilities."

They also said Ayuyu's "main concern is to follow Rota Health Center employees around and eavesdrop on our conversation by putting his

ear to the door of certain divisions. This type of behavior shows his lack of trust for his subordinates and also shows a childish behavior."

The petitioners also said that Ayuyu tape records meetings with certain employees only. "He says he is recording his meetings for his record, but if it is for his record, why only with some employees and not all?" the petitioners asked.

Ayuyu cited an incident where he asked one of the employees to re-state on a tape recorder a statement he told

him earlier. Ayuyu said the employee previously told him about having another employee punch in/out for another employee.

"I wanted it to be recorded," Ayuyu said.

Ayuyu said almost all of those who signed the petition are local residents. "Those who did not sign the petition are professional nurses and doctors. They understand how a center should run," he said.

Ayuyu said the nonresident nurses under the Saipan Employment Agency Services did

not sign the petition.

"I am satisfied with their professionalism and work, that's why I want to keep them here at the Rota Health Center," Ayuyu added.

The employees who signed the petition are from different divisions or offices within the Rota Health Center, including the Bureau of Environmental Health, Vital Statistics, Nursing Division, Vital Statistics Unit, Dietary Section, Maintenance, Public Health, Medical Referral, Dental Unit, Billing, Housekeeping, and Procurement.

NMC

From Page 2

been certifying student leaders for over 30 years.

Rodriguez was also chosen as the college's Outstanding Student of the Year during the college's Charter Day celebration

early this month.

Saipan Tribune learned that Ferrer is a recipient of various scholarships such as the First Hawaiian Bank/Glimpses of Guam Businesswoman of the Year scholarship, the Tan Siu Lin Foundation scholarship, and the Society of Human Resource

Management scholarship.

"I'm really grateful that my contributions are being recognized," said Ferrer.

Both Rodriguez and Ferrer were awarded the Phi Theta Kappa scholarship after being recognized for their active participation in the organization and for maintaining

a high GPA.

The Student Leadership Award is given to graduating students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and service to the college and the community.

Although Rodriguez and Ferrer are presidents of student organizations, it is not a re-

quirement for nominees to have been in a formal leadership position at NMC to be considered for the award.

NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera said both students deserve the honor.

"Miles and Roxanne deserve this recognition. This is a testament to their true leadership,"

she told *Saipan Tribune*.

NMC is expecting over a hundred students to graduate this Spring semester. This year's commencement exercises will be held at the Marianas High School Gymnasium on Saturday and will be keynote by NMC longtime instructor Sam McPhetres.

More nurses eyed for hospital

Govt proclaims May 23-29 as CNMI Nurses Week

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

More nurses are needed at the Commonwealth Health Center in order for the hospital to be fully staffed so the Department of Public Health is now collaborating with the Saipan Southern High School's Nursing Academy to develop the island's nursing workforce.

The hospital currently has a nursing staff of 190, said DPH Secretary Kevin Villagomez, but it is actually approved to hire more than 200 nurses.

"We have approved FTEs [full-time employees] of over 200 and we haven't filled everything yet. We need more nurses to become fully staffed...and we're still hiring," Villagomez told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

DPH reported early this year that it has a nursing workforce of 235. If the present number is at 190, this means a significant reduction in the nursing population in the last five months.

Villagomez highlighted the islands' need for more nurses during yesterday's proclamation signing at the Office of the Governor designating May 23-29 as CNMI Nurses Week. The theme of the celebration is "Caring today for a healthier tomorrow."

Acting Gov. Eloy Inos signed the proclamation and urged everyone to join the government in honoring nurses by celebrating their accomplishments and efforts to improve the local health care system.

Villagomez said the department's collaboration with

Saipan Southern High School's Nursing Academy would augment the islands' nursing workforce and create an available pool of future nurses.

Saipan Tribune learned that 130 nurses now working at CHC are nonresident aliens and may soon be displaced by federal immigration issues.

Villagomez disclosed that DPH pays its nurses an average salary of \$33,000 to \$40,000 and a maximum salary of up to \$50,000-plus. This is on top of overtime pay and benefits. He described these figures as "comparable" to most places in the Pacific region.

In previous years, nurses and doctors have been leaving the hospital due to uncompetitive salaries and benefits. The housing benefit for nonresident nurses was previously suspended but was soon reinstated after many nurses threatened to quit. Villagomez assured that the housing issue for nurses has been resolved.

'Often neglected and overlooked'

Nursing director April Ricotta, in a letter to nurses, said their profession is often described as an art and a science that embraces dedicated people with varied interests, strengths, and passions.

"We have many roles—from staff nurse to educator to nurse practitioner and nurse researcher—and serve all of them with passion for the profession and with a strong commitment to patient safety."

She said it is also an honorable and amazing profession

that is often taken for granted and overlooked.

"These days the nurses in the CNMI are facing many obstacles and challenges and it is time that a tender hand is extended toward all of you.... This is a time of change and of unknown futures which can lend itself to confusion and fear," she said. "It is during times like these that nurses must remember to look at one another and say thank you."

"This week is to celebrate each and every one of you... to tell you that we are grateful for your work and your devotion. May this year be filled with opportunities and positive

change," Ricotta added.

Throughout the week, various continuing education will be conducted among nurses

and the public. A Mass is also scheduled on Sunday, while a Nurses' Ball will cap the activities for the week.

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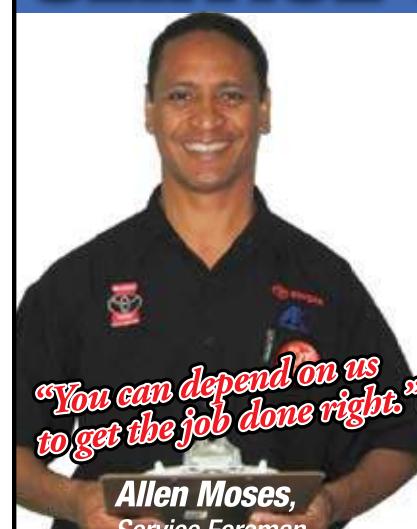
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By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Felix R. Nogis appeared in federal court yesterday and pleaded not guilty to a citation issued by the National Park Services that charged him with leaving behind a large amount of trash after a recent party at the American Memorial Park in Garapan.

Joseph N. Camacho and Michael Evangelista served as counsels for Nogis.

Visiting federal court judge John C. Coughenour set the trial for Friday at 9am.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* after the hearing, Camacho said a person under a democratic system can have his day in court and state his side of the story.

"We cannot get into the details strategy yet," Camacho said.

Evangelista said the public should not rush to judgment. He pointed out that under the justice system, accused persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

"We've asked for a trial date and that's when we will tell our side of the story," he said.

National Park Service Ranger Brian Piercy, who issued the citation to Nogis for littering on April 26, appeared in court.

The U.S. Attorney's Office is expected to handle the case during trial.

Camacho said they will direct their request for discovery of documents such as police reports to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Piercy stated in court papers that he was on duty at the American Memorial Park on April 26 when a park maintenance staff told him about a large amount of litter at the baseball field.

Piercy said it was determined during the follow-up investigation that the table used for the party had been reserved by Nogis.

"He was requested to come to the scene where he was advised and shown the litter left behind. He was issued this violation notice," the ranger said.

Piercy then filed a statement of probable cause for issuance of an arrest warrant or summons in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

The Office of the Public Auditor and the Office of the Attorney General have recommended that the Department of Lands and Natural Resources cease further negotiations with Nogis on a proposed sole-source contract worth \$40,500 as a logistics supervisor/coordinate for a Northern Islands terrestrial and marine survey project.

Public Lands Secretary Oscar M. Babauta also cancelled a \$60,000 sole-source contract with Nogis following advice from the OPA and OAG on the restrictions of hiring individuals convicted of federal and local laws. DPL had hired Nogis as a consultant for Northern Islands development projects.

Nogis was convicted in 2004 on federal theft charges.

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DFW official named to work on NI project vice Nogis

AG describes general process of contract reviews

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Dr. Ignacio Dela Cruz said yesterday a Division of Fish and Wildlife official has been designated to serve as supervisor/coordinator for an ongoing Northern Islands terrestrial and marine survey, replacing Felix R. Nogis.

Dela Cruz said the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which is the project grantor, "expressed satisfaction with the performance so far" of DFW acting director Vicente "Ben" Camacho.

"That's very reassuring," Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune*, referring to the statement made by USFWS's Curt Kessler on Camacho's performance as supervisor/coordinator for the project, during a meeting yesterday afternoon.

DLNR had initially proposed a \$40,000 sole-source contract for Nogis, doing business as FELNO Consulting Service, as supervisor/coordinator for the survey.

However, the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Public Auditor cautioned DLNR against further nego-

tiations with Nogis because of government job restrictions on individuals with local and federal convictions.

Nogis was convicted in 2004 on federal theft charges when he was still executive director of the Workforce Investment Agency.

Public Auditor Michael Pai said Nogis was barred from working for the CNMI government for a period of 10 years.

Buckingham statement

Attorney General Edward Buckingham would not comment yesterday on the OAG's concerns about Nogis' cancelled contract with the Department of Public Lands, as well as the suggestion to cease negotiations on a proposed DLNR contract with Nogis.

Saipan Tribune asked for a copy of the OAG's letter to DPL and DLNR, but Buckingham said this document is covered by attorney-client privilege.

Buckingham, however, gave an overview of the general process that OAG uses "to review all contracts that come in for approval to the Office of the At-

torney General."

He said OAG has two attorneys who take turns conducting preliminary reviews. These attorneys review each contract and give the attorney general recommendations.

"Generally, the recommendations are to sign a contract because they don't see no issues. Sometimes it's maybe sign it, maybe not, and if there are some issues... they present those issues for consideration. And in certain other cases, the recommendation is there are sufficient legal concerns to recommend not signing the contract at all. That's what we generally do in terms of contracts. As to the specifics of an individual contract, that's subject to attorney-client privilege and I won't comment further," Buckingham said after a Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency in Garapan.

DPL, DLNR

The Department of Public Lands, which granted a \$60,000 sole-source consultant contract to Nogis for Northern Islands development projects, already can-

celled the contract due to similar concerns by OPA and OAG.

OAG approved the DPL contract with Nogis in March but later agreed with OPA's interpretation of the law on employment restrictions for those with federal convictions. This prompted DPL to cancel the contract.

DLNR also proposed a sole-source, federally funded contract for Nogis. But OAG sent back the proposed contract to DLNR. This means the proposed DLNR contract for Nogis did not go through.

"Most likely I'm not going to pursue Nogis' contract," said Dela Cruz, as a result of OPA and OAG's suggestions. But he said there's no final decision on the contract yet.

Due to the time sensitive aspect of the Northern Islands biological survey, Dela Cruz said the USFWS and DLNR needed a coordinator for the project.

The DLNR secretary assigned Camacho to perform the services required. Dela Cruz said DLNR is using federal funds to pay for Camacho's services as project coordinator/supervisor.

Meanwhile, some USFWS biologists have completed their surveys of the Northern Islands, while others are still doing surveys.

The USFWS survey is part of the U.S. Department of Defense assessment of the Northern Islands.

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MELL SPRINGLEAF	003E	5/8 Sat	5/6 Thu	5/6 Thu	5/4 Tue	5/1 Sat	5/14 Fri	5/10 Mon	5/9 Sun	5/2 Sun	5/2 Sun	5/10 Mon	5/14 Fri	5/16 Sun	5/18 Tue
MELL SILOSO	004E	5/15 Sat	5/13 Thu	5/13 Thu	5/11 Tue	5/8 Sat	5/21 Fri	5/17 Mon	5/16 Sun	5/9 Sun	5/9 Sun	5/17 Mon	5/21 Fri	5/23 Sun	5/25 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	038E	5/22 Sat	5/20 Thu	5/20 Thu	5/18 Tue	5/15 Sat	5/28 Fri	5/24 Mon	5/23 Sun	5/16 Sun	5/16 Sun	5/24 Mon	5/28 Fri	5/30 Sun	6/1 Tue
MELL SPRINGLEAF	004E	5/29 Sat	5/27 Thu	5/27 Thu	5/25 Tue	5/22 Sat	6/4 Fri	5/31 Mon	5/30 Sun	5/23 Sun	5/23 Sun	5/31 Mon	6/4 Fri	6/6 Sun	6/8 Tue
MELL SILOSO	005E	6/5 Sat	6/3 Thu	6/3 Thu	6/1 Tue	5/29 Sat	6/11 Fri	6/7 Mon	6/6 Sun	5/30 Sun	5/30 Sun	6/7 Mon	6/11 Fri	6/13 Sun	6/15 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	039E	6/12 Sat	6/10 Thu	6/10 Thu	6/8 Tue	6/5 Sat	6/18 Fri	6/14 Mon	6/13 Sun	6/6 Sun	6/6 Sun	6/14 Mon	6/18 Fri	6/20 Sun	6/22 Tue

Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA	ETD	ETA	ETA	ETA	ETA	ETA	ETA	ETA	ETA	ETA	ETA	ETA	ETA
		Guam		Guam	Yap	Koror	Davao	GenSan	Cebu	Hongkong	Kaoshiung	Busan	Yokohama	Manila	Singapore
MELL SPRINGLEAF	003E	5/22 Sat	5/23 Sun	5/23 Sun	SKIP	5/26 Wed	5/28 Fri	5/30 Sun	SKIP	6/4 Fri	6/5 Sat	6/10 Thu	6/29 Tue	6/13 Sun	6/9 Wed
MELL SILOSO	004E	5/29 Sat	5/30 Sun	5/30 Sun	6/1 Tue	6/2 Wed	6/4 Fri	6/6 Sun	SKIP	6/11 Fri	6/12 Sat	6/17 Thu	7/6 Tue	6/20 Sun	6/16 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	038E	6/5 Sat	6/6 Sun	6/6 Sun	SKIP	6/9 Wed	6/11 Fri	6/13 Sun	SKIP	6/18 Fri	6/19 Sat	6/24 Thu	7/13 Tue	6/27 Sun	6/23 Wed
MELL SPRINGLEAF	004E	6/12 Sat	6/13 Sun	6/13 Sun	6/15 Tue	6/16 Wed	6/18 Fri	6/20 Sun	SKIP	6/25 Fri	6/26 Sat	7/1 Thu	7/20 Tue	7/4 Sun	6/30 Wed
MELL SILOSO	005E	6/19 Sat	6/20 Sun	6/20 Sun	SKIP	6/23 Wed	6/25 Fri	6/27 Sun	SKIP	7/2 Fri	7/3 Sat	7/8 Thu	7/27 Tue	7/11 Sun	7/7 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	039E	6/26 Sat	6/27 Sun	6/27 Sun	6/29 Tue	6/30 Wed	7/2 Fri	7/4 Sun	SKIP	7/9 Fri	7/10 Sat	7/15 Thu	8/3 Tue	7/18 Sun	7/14 Wed

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'Govt should not directly hire nurses'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) said the government should not directly hire nurses, and continue to rely on private employment agencies.

Tenorio was referring to Sen. Juan M. Ayuyu's (Ind-Rota) statement that the government will directly hire the nurses employed by the Saipan Employment Agency Services, to help avoid future delays in wages.

SEAS has been delayed in paying its 11 nurses and auxiliary staff assigned at the Rota Health Center for four pay periods. But the government also owes SEAS some

\$200,000 for services rendered by SEAS nurses to the Rota Health Center.

A local law signed on Friday appropriates \$16,000 for the payment of SEAS nurses.

"If the administration has the money to hire these people, then why not just give those money to SEAS so they can pay the nurses? I don't want the government to be [directly] hiring nurses anymore. In fact, I want to introduce legislation to go back to what it was before when government hires nurses through [a] manpower company," said Tenorio.

Tenorio said it is more costly for the government to directly hire nurses than source them

through employment agencies.

The speaker said the bill he plans to introduce prohibits the government from directly hiring nurses not only on Rota but also on Saipan and Tinian.

The Department of Public Health currently directly employs nurses at the Commonwealth Health Center on Saipan.

"I don't want government to be in the business of looking for housing and accommodation for government employees. I want a contractor or manpower company to be responsible for this. When we hire nurses directly, we have to pay for their housing, and then we have to take care of their transportation

from the house to the hospital," he said.

Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos, in a separate interview yesterday, said the Filial administration will continue to find ways to maintain nurses at the Rota Health Center but is not entering into direct contracts with any nurses there at this time.

"That's a matter still up on the table as far as services are concerned. We're looking for nurses," he said.

Inos said the issue of contractual obligation should be addressed first.

"We'd rather have them deal with contractual issues with SEAS before we talk about engaging them... before making arrangements," he said.

Rota nurses are still waiting for a decision by the CNMI labor secretary on an appeal filed by SEAS against a decision that permanently bars it from hiring or employing nurses.

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MAY 24 TO JUNE 6, 2010

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

MAY 19, 1999

Chamber, DOLI meet but no diatribe

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce yesterday expressed optimism that the concerns raised by its members in connection with the implementation of The Resident Workers Fair Compensation Act will be taken into consideration by the CNMI government. Chamber officers met with Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio, Labor Secretary Mark Zachares, key leaders of the legislature and the Attorney General's Office for three hours during which they discussed the proposed amendments to the implementing rules and regulations of Public Law 11-74. The meeting was arranged by Rep. Oscar Babauta, chair of the House Committee on Commerce and Tourism. However, during the consultation meeting there was no mention of the complaints made by the Chamber members on the Department of Labor and Immigration which include inefficiency, incompetence, and prejudice.

Govt forms audit committee

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has created the Interagency Coordinating Advisory Group in yet another effort to boost the implementation of recommendations put forward by the Public Auditor's Office. The Coordinating Group was put in place to review all the audit reports prepared by OPA and carry out recommendations. Part of its task is to determine if there is a need to amend existing laws to strengthen compliance of the regulations. Recently the Coordinating Group, led by the Department of Finance, met to track the audit recommendations and findings of OPA, according to the governor's advisor on budget and finance, Michael S. Sablan.

May 19, 2000

Atalig tells Kumoi: You're out!

Rota—Sen. Ricardo S. Atalig yesterday lashed out at Sen. Ramon S. Guerrero, whom he described as "radical," for publicly disclosing his legislative expenditures that he said were justified as the finance department approved them for reimbursements. He said he can no longer work with the Saipan senator in the two committees he chairs following the latter's action. Guerrero was booted out the other day from the committees on Health, Education and Welfare as well as Judiciary, Government and Law. "I am disappointed. I don't trust him," Atalig said in an interview. "He should have come to me first to clarify those expenditures. We should be working together in harmony."

CUC defers selection of 80MW contractor

Rota—With barely two more weeks to go before a mandated deadline, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. yesterday postponed discussion on the much-delayed power project on Saipan until May 25 where it expects to award the contract to one of the bidders. "A decision will be made during that time," CUC board chair Jesus T. Guerrero told in an interview after a board meeting held at the Rota Health Center cafeteria. Although he declined to give details on what will happen at next week's meeting, he said they will have to come up with a selection soon as the law stipulating installation of the 80-megawatt plant has given them 60 days to do so.

MAY 19, 2003

DEQ cites open dump operator

The Division of Environmental Quality recently cited a man for violating the CNMI Solid Waste Management Regulations by operating an open dump. In a notice of violation, DEQ directed Kwung Ki Paik to immediately stop the dump's operation. DEQ claimed demolition debris was stockpiled at a Garapan lot along Beach Road, which was formerly known as 19th Hole Building. "No person shall own or operate a solid waste management facility or perform solid waste management activities without a permit," stated DEQ director John I. Castro Jr., citing regulations.

Bishop: No to Saipan casino

Roman Catholic Bishop Thomas Camacho issued yesterday a stern warning against the proposal to authorize casino operations on Saipan, as contained in a pending legislative initiative at the House of Representatives. "I strongly recommend that we do not only defeat any attempt at introducing casinos to Saipan at this time but to make it clear that we do not wish this matter to be brought up again," said Camacho in a pastoral letter that was read in all Masses at all Catholic churches yesterday. "Why is this issue being brought up again? Is the government desperate for funds? But our governor has told us that our economy is in good shape," he said, referring to Gov. Juan N. Babauta's recent Commonwealth Address where he said that the Commonwealth is "in pretty darn good shape."

Chief priest of Katori Jingu Shrine visits Saipan



Rev. Shoji Takahashi, second from left, the chief priest of the Katori Jingu Shrine, pose with, from left, Yoichi Matsumura, Hyatt Regency Saipan GM Nick Nishikawa, Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, and Japanese Consul Tsutomu Higuchi after a meeting at the Saipan Mayor's Office.

Rev. Shoji Takahashi, the chief priest of the Katori Jingu Shrine, visited Saipan over the weekend, May 16-17, to meet with Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio, Saipan Mayor Donald Flores and Japanese Consul Tsutomu Higuchi in preparation for the 25th anniversary of the Katori Jingu Shrine at the Sugar King Park.

The Shrine was rebuilt 25 years ago. The anniversary celebration will be held in conjunction with

Saipan's Japanese Society of Northern Mariana Islands Autumn Festival on Oct. 23, 2010.

The Japanese Society of Northern Mariana Islands is a non-profit corporation chartered in July 3, 1985. This year, the Society will observe its 25th term led by chairman Katsushi Nishikawa, vice chairmen Naotsugu Suzuki and Yoichi Matsumura and 21 other directors. The Society also has branches on Tinian and Rota.

As part of the anniversary celebration, plans are being studied to highlight the Japanese traditional court music performance called "Gagaku." The "Gagaku" is normally played using tapes or CDs and seldom played live. If finalized, the Japanese Society of the Northern Mariana Islands will showcase real Japanese culture to the people of the CNMI with a unique chance to experience and listen to the live music of "Gagaku." (PR)



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The government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands expects an allocation of \$880,551 Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); \$647,474 Home Investment Partnerships (HOME); and, \$63,386 Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funds for Program Year (PY) 2010 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

CDBG funds, authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, may be used for a wide range of community development activities to revitalize neighborhoods, provide affordable housing, expand economic opportunities, and improve community facilities and services. However, use of these funds must meet at least one of the national objectives which include: 1) to benefit low and moderate-income families; 2) to eliminate slum or blight conditions; or 3) meet urgent community development needs.

The CDBG program requires grant recipients to certify that it will minimize displacement of persons as a result of activities assisted with CDBG funds. The CNMI government does not plan on undertaking any activity which will cause displacement of persons. In the event of any unforeseen displacement resulting from any CDBG-funded activity, the CNMI government will comply with the requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, its implementing regulation and applicable local law.

HOME funds may be used to create affordable housing through financial assistance, site acquisition, or improvement, and rehabilitating existing residential dwellings as well as providing funds for new construction or purchase of a single-family residential dwelling. Use of HOME funds must benefit low-income families.

ESG funds may be used to rehabilitate or convert buildings into homeless shelters and for shelter operating expenses, supportive services and homeless prevention activities. Use of ESG funds must benefit the homeless.

In order to plan ahead as to the use(s) of the PY 2010 allocation which is expected within the next few months, the NMHC which administers the CPD program on behalf of the CNMI government, will be conducting hearings to obtain public input on community development and housing needs, and to provide information to the public on the status of the approved ongoing CDBG projects. The public hearings will be held as follows:

1. On Rota, May 26, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. at the NMHC Office, Songsong Village, Rota;
2. On Tinian, May 27, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. at the CDA/NMHC Office in San Jose Village, Tinian; and,
3. On Saipan, May 28, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan.

Additional inquiries concerning the CDBG program may be directed in writing to the Corporate Director, or Jeannie P. Mafnas, Planner/Grant Writer, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. 500514, Saipan, MP. 96950, or by calling 234-6866 or 234-7689.

/s/ Joshua T. Sasamoto
Corporate Director



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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
CUC-RFP-10-030

Supply of (2) Two 1825KW Power Modules for CUC Rota Power Plant

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified individuals or firms for the urgent supply of **(2) Two 1825KW Power Modules** for CUC Rota Power Plant, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The generator sets will be used to power the Island of Rota, while CUC take down existing generators for major engine overhaul and rehabilitation. The existing generator sets on Rota are seriously overdue for overhauls and the power situation on Rota is very critical.

Due to this critical situation in Rota, Offerors must have units available for delivery no later than Six (6) months or 180 days from the closing of this BID. Used Modules with low hours will also be considered.

A site visit and pre-proposal meeting is not planned, but Offerors who wish to visit CUC Rota power plant will be permitted with prior approval. All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on part of the Offerors due to a lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of the Contractor's preparation of a bid or performance of work under the contract.

The Scope-of-Work will be e-mailed upon request, to all interested Offerors, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays, until May 14, 2010.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a seal envelope marked "**CUC-RFP-10-030, Supply of (2) Two 1825KW Power Modules for CUC Rota Power Plant**" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room No.4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan, P.O.Box 501220, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **May 20, 2010 at 10:00 AM**, (CHST) local time. Late submissions will not be considered.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total proposal price must accompany the bid offer. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Office of the Attorney General. A performance and payment bond of hundred (100%) percent each of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety for proposal security or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Office of the Attorney General. No advance payment will be authorized on the project or an Irrevocable Letter of Credit (100% aggregate contract cost/CUC Beneficiary) or a payment bond. All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Offerors must submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all offer and waive any imperfection in the solicitation for competitive sealed proposals, in the interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All inquires must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (CHST) local time on **May 17, 2010** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., Procurement & Supply Manager via email at msablan@cucgov.net, Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director Power System Rehabilitation via email at wallon59@yahoo.com, Mr. Charles Mangiona, CUC Rota Deputy Director at charles@cucgov.net and Mr. John Onedera, Power Division Engineer at johno@cucgov.net.

/s/ ABE UTU MALAE
Assistant Executive Director for Operations

/s/ ANTONIO S. MUNA
Executive Director

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

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Solving for happiness: A mathematical proof

The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and move beyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!

A few days ago, a friend and reader of this column asked me if I had any suggestions about techniques, philosophies, or something that I could suggest to help her be happier.

I was at once flattered that she asked (I guess I must look happy, or maybe I look so unhappy, that she figured I must be searching, too!) In any event, in my never-ending quest to provide value to others, I promised her I would e-mail something, and I set about figuring out what I could say to help. It occurred to me that there must be a formula, a mathematical approach to happiness, if you will, that anyone could benefit from. So, using my memories of math class, I decided to apply the concept of "proofs" to the concept of happiness!

Solving for "X"

If you remember from Geometry class, to complete a mathematical "proof," we start with a "problem" or a "given":

Given: Triangle ABC

and then we have a conclusion to prove:

Prove: The angles of triangle ABC, angles 1, 2, and 3, sum to 180 degrees.

You proceed through the proof by starting with an assumption, making statements, invoking established geometric laws and postulates, giving reasons, all in a logical sequence, to develop the final conclusion.

Similarly, to solve for happiness, we can start with our own "given" and "problem:"

Given: I am unhappy

Prove: How can I be happy?

We can use the same mathematical strategy starting with some basic assumptions, and making our arguments in a logical sequence. Ready?

■ ■ ■

PROOF 1: What is the cause of unhappiness?

ASSUMPTION: Unhappiness has causes. It is possible to be happy.

ARGUMENT: If you are not happy, it is because there is a flaw in your belief system. Therefore, the way to be happy is to find a belief system that works.

ARGUMENT: Your belief system is composed of your thoughts. Therefore, if unhappiness is caused by a belief system, and if a belief system is merely a set of thoughts, then:

CONCLUSION: Happiness is caused by your thoughts.

[*You may rightly ask, "What about my words and actions?" Yes, Thoughts, Words & Deeds are the important trilogy we often talk about. However, since our words and our actions are functions of our thought, we can deal just with the thoughts, and words and actions will take care of themselves.*]

■ ■ ■

PROOF 2: What thoughts must I change in order to be happy?

ASSUMPTION: It is possible to identify and change the thoughts that are making you unhappy.

ARGUMENT: There are only four types of thoughts that you have. You think about your self, about others, about the world/universe, and about life's situations.

CONCLUSION: Therefore, your thoughts about: 1. Your Self,



2. Others, 3. The World and 4. Life's Situations must be changed in order for you to be happy.

■ ■ ■

PROOF 3: What specific thoughts about my self are important?

ASSUMPTION: The thoughts about your self cover many facets of your being.

ARGUMENT: When it comes to your self, there are three components we speak most of: Body, Mind and Soul.

ARGUMENT: Also, when it comes to your happiness, there are three states of existence that we speak most of: Being (who you are), Doing (what you do), and Having (what you have)

CONCLUSION: Therefore, your happiness in relation to your self will be a function of and determined by your thoughts (i.e., your belief system) about your body, mind and soul, and about who you are, what you do, and what you have.

Solving for the Self

"To thine own self be true..."

The most important step to take to solve for happiness is to first solve for the self. I suggest to you that the more you learn (i.e. solve) about yourself, the happier you will become. Let me share with you my own experience.

One of the first revelations I experienced about myself occurred as part of team during a sales training course. As part of our orientation to become top sellers in a network marketing business, we all took a personality test. The results of the test categorized us as different types of fish. Some people discovered themselves to be fun-loving "dolphins," others were money-loving "sharks," service-oriented "whales," while I fell among the fact and figure-loving "urchins."

The point of the test was to impress upon us that different people we would work with—as well as those we would sell to—were motivated by different things. No personality was "better" than another, and all were necessary for the functioning of our team.

Until that moment, I had known these quirks of my personality, but simply felt I was alone in my uniqueness. However, once I realized that my personality type was not unusual, that it was actually composed of identifiable, recognizable, known traits, and that there were others like me, it became easier to accept who I was. I was simply a person more comfortable with facts and figures. I was an urchin!

This explained a lot. It explained why I ended up as a civil engineer. It explained why I was able to recall facts that my schoolmates couldn't. It explained why you could move me to action by providing information rather than by promising me "tons of fun" or "lots of money." As I became more secure in my personality, my team members knew they could come to me for facts about our products and industry, and that any answer I gave would be correct.

Years later, I took the Meyers Briggs test and found out I was an "INTP" (Introvert, iNtuitive, Thinker, Perceiver). Again, I encountered a set of traits and preferences and aptitudes that described me perfectly, and added a new dimension to my understanding of who I was.

Next came my introduction to the "life themes" concept, where I found the theme I was living was as "teacher." It explained a lot. It explained why I was drawn to write books that teach others. It explained why I was tutoring other students from as early as 2nd grade (I never went to first grade).

The Saipanpreneur Project

Creating economic success for the CNMI

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to walt@passionprofit.com.



Then, as I mentioned in a previous article, the concept of "soul age" came into my life, and again, provided me with validation of things about myself that added more peace to my life.

Solving for Others

The more I discovered about myself, the more accepting I've become of who I am, and by extension, the more tolerant I became of other people's differences. I no longer expect "dolphins" to be more like "urchins," or "ESFJs" (Extroverts, Sensors, Feelers, Judgers) to be more like "INTPs," or healers to be more like "teachers." We all have our uniqueness, our purposes, our missions, our themes, our traits, our talents, our predispositions, and our unique soul ages that make us different and necessary to the whole.

Knowing more about myself, and then about others had the added benefit of helping me actually predict how people will behave in certain situations. Things have become less of a mystery. Result: different expectations, more happiness.

Conclusion: The only thing you have complete control over in life is how you respond to the people over which you have no control.

Solving for Life's Situations

The single most impactful lessons I learned about life's situations involved the law of cause and effect, the law of attraction, and how to become accountable for the situations that happen in my life.

Many years ago, I took a course called "Life Spring" that introduced me to the concept of personal accountability. "Given that this is happening in your life, what did you do to create and/or attract it, and, more importantly, what are you going to do about it now?" Many people waste time playing the blame game, and instead of responding in ways that create a desired reality, they waste time assigning blame to people or circumstances as the cause for creating the effects in their lives. Sadly, many people never move beyond that level of response to life.

Conclusion: The only thing you have complete control over in life is how you respond to the situations over which you have no control.

Finally

The final, and perhaps most truthful statement about happiness that I ever encountered was that "happiness is an unmet expectation." In other words, the only reason you are ever unhappy about anything is because you have an expectation that is not in alignment with reality. Husband forgot your anniversary? You're unhappy because you expected him to remember. Change your expectation. Noisy

See SOLVING on Page 13

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

IN A NUTSHELL

A brief look at sovereignty, the Covenant, self-government, and the economy

Third of a five-part series

In May 1989 officials of the Commonwealth appeared before the United Nations' Trusteeship Council and accused the United States of asserting "imperial territorial claims" over the Commonwealth by trying to turn the islands into a colony. The members of this group urged the United Nations to continue to maintain control over Micronesia until the United States granted full self-government. Again in May 1990 the CNMI's Trust Termination Task Force presented their position before the United Nations that the Commonwealth disagrees with the United States as to its rights under international law. Thus, more than a dozen years after achieving Commonwealth status in affiliation with the United States there was still some confusion as to the extent of the relationship and the degree of self-government and autonomy the CNMI could exercise.

Many issues of the association not otherwise reduced to writing beforehand have resulted in the two bureaucracies requiring an inordinate amount of time and effort to reach agreement on several unresolved matters. For those not a party to the negotiations—and from the sideline—it often appears that the United States negotiators pretend that the islands are the equivalent of a U.S. territory, while the Commonwealth maintains it is a sovereign territory with few limitations, presumably self-imposed restrictions, circumscribed only by the Covenant.

By mid 1991, and after 10 sessions of the "902 consultations," the United States negotiator admitted that he had no authority to renegotiate certain issues and that the Commonwealth should either pursue a resolution of the outstanding issues with the U. S. Congress or seek a federal court ruling.

In July 1991 the Commonwealth government responded to the U.S. Congress Subcommittee on Insular and International Affairs relative to the Commonwealth's views on the following questions:

■ Question: "Is the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America a treaty?" and "If the Covenant is a treaty, does the Territorial Clause of the United States Constitution apply to the Northern Mariana Islands?"

■ CNMI Reply: It is the position of the Commonwealth government that:

Divided pearly isles

There are two major issues that have polarized the NMI in recent weeks. They are: 1). Improved status for guest workers here per one of five recommendations in DOI's report for submission to the US Congress. 2). The disposition of Article XII to preserve or repeal it. In each case, proponents and opponents have passionately justified their positions that occasionally border on irrationality.

Be that as it may, these expressions lead back to the trail of failed leadership (over the last 32 years) to engage the thoughtful disposition of matters of state. We've allowed the dictates of the garment industry to take hold over the protection of our rights to self-government. We simply didn't do anything to fix the self-inflicted mess in local control of immigration.

A good portion of the industry is gone! We're now at the brink of losing political control as a result of leadership's failure to guard what's rightfully ours. Playing into the mess was the Department of the Interior's failure to "consult" with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the NMI. Interesting that OIA's Tony Bautista quoted USPL 110-229 providing for consultation, but failed to honor such legal mandate. Isn't this a legal fraud committed against our people?

This 11th hour clamor reminds me of what former NMI Supreme Court Justice Jose S. Dela Cruz said in his letter of endorsement for Jesse C. Borja. The latter is one of four candidates for the NMI Delegate's Office. Said he: "At no point in the history of our young commonwealth has our ability to govern ourselves been sorely tested. "At no point in the history of our commonwealth has our economy performed so dismally, such that, for several years now, essential public services have been greatly compromised. Finally, at no time in the history of our young commonwealth has our relationship with the federal government been so strained, such that the fundamental goals and objectives of the Covenant have been forgotten by both parties to this relationship."

For the full version of former Justice Dela Cruz's letter, please see www.sijessenai2010.com. I could present a longish lamentation how we've screwed and neglected issues of substance for so long.

a. "The Covenant to establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has the legal status of a treaty;

b. The United States entered into the Covenant to satisfy its obligations under the Trusteeship Agreement for the former Japanese Mandated Islands;

c. The Northern Marianas was not under the sovereignty of the United States when the Covenant was approved; the Government of the United States entered into the Covenant pursuant to its constitutional power to conduct foreign affairs;

d. The language of the Covenant is language of agreement, not the language of legislation;

e. The Covenant was negotiated and approved as an agreement, not as a public law;

f. The federal government has recognized that the Covenant has the legal status of a treaty;

g. The Covenant does not make the plenary (i.e., complete, absolute, unqualified) powers of the Territorial Clause of the United States Constitution applicable to the Northern Mariana Islands;

h. The United States did not grant the people of the Northern Mariana Islands their right of self-government by approving the Covenant; the people of the Northern Marianas reserved those rights when they approved the Covenant;

i. By the Covenant's own terms, the plenary powers of the federal government under the Territorial Clause are not applicable to the Northern Mariana Islands;

j. The Covenant was negotiated and agreed to in order to satisfy the obligations of the United States under the United Nations Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement; application of plenary powers of the Federal Government under the Territorial Clause to the political union between the United States and the Commonwealth is not consistent with those obligations; the Covenant must be construed harmoniously with the fundamental documents that permitted its negotiation and approval;

k. Specific grants of legislative power to the federal government in the Covenant would be superfluous if the federal government had plenary powers to legislate under the Territorial Clause;

l. The Covenant must be construed to give effect to each of its provisions and not to render provisions superfluous;

m. Section 101 of the Covenant, reciting that the Commonwealth is under the sovereignty of the United States, is not a grant of Ter-

ritorial Clause powers to the United States;

n. The Territorial Clause is not necessary to provide the federal government with constitutional power to enact legislation necessary and proper to implement the Covenant;

o. Contradictions between the plain language of the Covenant and statements in the negotiating history reflect a purposeful ambiguity that resulted from the failure of the parties to agree on the applicability of the Territorial Clause to the Commonwealth;

p. Ambiguities in the Covenant are to be resolved in favor of the Commonwealth;

q. International law requires United States recognition of the mutually binding character of the Covenant;

r. The Covenant controls the relationship between the United States and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

s. The constitutional powers of the federal government with respect to the Northern Mariana Islands are limited by the terms of the agreement that brought the Northern Mariana Islands into the American political family;

t. The government of the United States has the power to enter into a mutually binding agreement that, among other things, reserves and guarantees self-government to an area not under the sovereignty of the United States in order to bring that area into the American political family."

In conclusion the report states, "For the foregoing reasons, it is clear that the Covenant has the legal status of a treaty and that it does not make the Territorial Clause of the Constitution applicable to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The federal government clearly entered into a lawful and mutually-binding agreement with the people of the Northern Mariana Islands

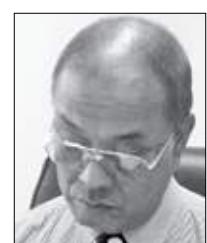
See A BRIEF on Page 13



By WILLIAM H. STEWART

Special to the Saipan Tribune

William H. Stewart is an economist, historian and military cartographer.



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Delrosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section

thoughtful discussion into ugly taboo?

It would seem very difficult for the NMI to justify the landownership concept for as long as it is individually owned. Courts have ruled in favor of American Samoa's "clan", Native American "tribes" and others similarly situated. Here, there's the pattern of individual landownership. Therefore, it's next to impossible to defend using culture as a tool to bluff our way through an argument that hardly holds water.

Some have deferred to the UN Declaration of Indigenous Rights. That could stand a chance if the indigenous people here were robbed of their land by the U.S. But there was the return of public land in the '70s that gave the NMI control of its precious public property. The U.S. also paid for damages to land during and after the war. The UN Trusteeship agreement to which the U.S. is a signatory honors the principle of landownership inherent under the U.S. Constitution.

Perhaps the next best thing that we must focus on is how do we take our people out of the miseries of slavery in our apparent inability to work and defend our rights within the confines of the Covenant agreement. It's a positive step in the right direction that is non-confrontational and beneficial to both sides of the Pacific Divide. This is a better paradigm over the usual "command and control" that envenoms our friends as to make us their adversaries. Let's join hands and develop constructive engagement while establishing and nurturing a network of friends between here and Washington. *Si Yuus Maase!*

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.

▲ 89° ▼ 79°

▲ 89° ▼ 79°

▲ 89° ▼ 79°

▲ 89° ▼ 79°

▲ 89° ▼ 79°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Palau	Mostly Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Yap	Sunny	▲ 89 ▼ 76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▼ 76
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Kosrae	Partly Sunny	▲ 89 ▼ 79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 84 ▼ 79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲ 64 ▼ 51
Beijing	Windy	▲ 87 ▼ 62
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 82 ▼ 78
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲ 85 ▼ 74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 70 ▼ 54
Los Angeles	Showers	▲ 67 ▼ 54
Manila	Mostly Sunny	▲ 97 ▼ 86
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 50
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 76
New York	Rain	▲ 56 ▼ 52
Osaka	Rain	▲ 70 ▼ 67
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 68 ▼ 47
Pusan	Showers	▲ 71 ▼ 61
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 66 ▼ 53
Salem	Showers	▲ 61 ▼ 48
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 55 ▼ 49
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 74 ▼ 57
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 70 ▼ 66
Washington, DC	Showers	▲ 50 ▼ 55

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
12:22 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.9 Feet
5:52 AM	Today	Low Tide: 1.3 Feet
10:16 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.8 Feet
5:52 PM	Today	Low Tide: 0.3 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	5:47 AM	6:40 PM	Today	10:26 AM	11:31 PM
Thursday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM	Thursday	11:26 AM	
Friday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM	Friday	12:23 PM	12:17 AM
Saturday	5:47 AM	6:41 PM	Saturday	1:20 PM	1:00 AM
Sunday	5:47 AM	6:41 PM	Sunday	2:15 PM	1:42 AM

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ISLAND SNAPSHOT

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747.

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 7, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM				GUAM-ROTA (ROP)			
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5	C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily	C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	5:55am	8:35am	Daily	DL290	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
DL297	3:35pm	6:15pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
02608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	02607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
02604	2:20am	6:10am	1	02605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
02604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	02603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
02606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	02603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
CZ3008	3:30am</						

Promoting a coalition of the willing

I started tooting my horn while driving in the opposite direction as Sunday's Unity Movement motorcade began from Kilili Beach to the *Mei Guo Gong Yuan* (American Memorial Park), to indicate my solidarity with the movement. At the initial march two years ago, I had the raise-the-middle-finger urge after a particularly noxious immigration and labor legislation passed Capital Hill. After colleagues on stage spoke, I decided to be my disestablishment self when asked to say a few words and invited the public to pronounce the words *Shen Jing Ping* with me. The Chinese in the crowd smirked; the words meant "crazy" with pejorative connotations!

I was pleasantly pleased this time when one of the marshals approached my pickup and gently reminded me that there were not going to be any honking of horns during the parade. The organizers evidently had enough presence of mind to plan the procession as a solemn and stately occasion. Light was to prevail over blare in the din of the belligerent; my headlights went a-beaming on the confused.

One of the organizers advised members to stick to the theme of gratitude to the CNMI for the opportunity of legally joining the islands' family, and that of the federal American Union. A two-edged sword in the pen of our prolific letter-to-the-editor writer Malou Berueco, not generally known for conciliatory pronouncements, but she pointed out that there is much to be grateful for across the divide that separate sentiments on the granting of improved immigration status to long-term legal "aliens" in the CNMI.

The term "legal" is, of course, the defining term in the whole conversation because the impression abroad is that the feds and their cohorts are cuddling insidious and subversive illegals so that they can be accommodated into the current nebulous situation and further dilute the possible electoral make-up of CNMI politics that threatens those who are, or identified with, the local ethnic indigenes (*aka* DNA in-da-genes!), and thereby, feel that local decision-making is their prerogative.

We have enough resident and fly-by-night legal minds that would sportingly turn the possible congressional legislative wordings and follow-up regulatory write-ups as the arena of contentious play, if

we let them. The other option, of course, is the forgotten island practice of cooperation and collaboration—cultural traits that, for all the boisterous bluster that the islands are losing the cultural heritage in the possible repeal of the land alienation provision, have been abandoned in the forsaken ways of the *tao tao tano* once-upon-a-time familiar sea lanes.

There is an African saying that is appropriate to our situation: "If you wish to travel fast, go alone; if you wish to go far, travel together!" To demonstrate that this is a human truth not inherent in mere ethnicity, a silent but effective practitioner of this trait is Tim Thornburg, the Explore-all-Possibilities Federal Grants officer of PSS. He likes to focus on advantages rather than limitations, a good indication of why the administration and management of PSS federal grants is a model in the Pacific.

In any given situation, the perspectives of limits and possibilities are necessary. Knowledge and obedience of limits ground one to reality as presently conceived, but it is possibilities that captures energy and fuels enthusiasm. In the design of policies, programs, projects—the allocation of personnel and funds—limits need not burden and overwhelm the freedom and creativity of the imagination to turn possibilities into tangible flights of fancy and show courage to navigate the course of untried horizons, as the *tao tao tasi* once did!

It is helpful that Thornburg practices his trade in the emerging PSS culture of broad participatory involvement of teachers, parents, students and community leaders in the site management of local schools, coupled with the decisiveness (the *Just do it!* ethos) of executive functions, and a loosening of board deliberations to transparent openness and wider accountability. My continuing issues with PSS, which often find expression on this page, were affirmed when asked of my institutional affiliation in my recent travels; I did not hesitate to call PSS home.

Two learnings that need to permeate our educational system: one, is the wisdom that the *relational nature* of personal discourse is essential, a not altogether foreign notion in our native understanding. We do treat each other as human beings with name/face identities (e.g., Social Studies teacher Mr. V), not as individualized units of

them to. You could actually choose to smile, when the racket starts next door. Anytime you cling to an expectation that is not in alignment with reality or truth, you are creating your own unhappiness, and you have the ability to create the opposite state by choosing a new reaction.

The Ultimate Key

So, therefore, the ultimate key to happiness is this: "Something you believe to be true, and thus your expectation about (fill in the blank) is not in alignment with reality and/or truth. Change the belief and

the Northern Mariana Islands."

If you have read this far and accept the NMI's position as stated above, it would appear that some people in the NMI hold the belief the United States has for all intent and purpose adopted what would seem to amount to the equivalent of a semi-foreign country, cloaked it in the American flag as existing under some, but not all, laws of the United States.

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section



an abstract category (e.g., an SVES teacher). This is the incentive for smaller classroom sizes in the school factory mills. There is no substitute in the learning process than a child feeling that his/her individual effort is recognized, and that it matters!

Two, we note the *associational nature* of our social networks. I once pointed out that the Association of Commonwealth Teachers is exactly what its name calls it, an association. We are associates, of equal footing as members, with differing roles and functions by group selection or self-election. When associates gather, they are best served in a roundtable mindset (if the physical arrangement would reflect this understanding, better) where the power is in the middle of the room rather than on the presider, facilitator, and convener up front.

Needless to say, when leaders are considered as upfront experts where they, like sales personnel, present their wares and members are consumers of their proficiency, we have difficulties with the movemental nature of facilitative leaders. Leadership is a service of convening and facilitating. Tina Sablan and Glen Hunter tried making their sunrise and sunset conversations systemic but their efforts were short of partners to reach critical mass; however, they got us started.

"You drew the line that kept us apart; I drew a circle that kept us together." With the polarization of locals and aliens, I am encouraged by the use of the symbol of "umbrella" to shade our island togetherness until 11.30.11. Without blurring defining lines, we can remain within the same circle under the same coverage. We can disagree all we want, without necessarily being disagreeable! Will do.

the expectation, and create your happiness. For Happiness is merely a thought."

PART 2: APPLYING THE PROOF

In Part 2, we will explore several specific examples of how to apply this key to your self (i.e. body, mind and soul, who you are, what you do, and what you have), to Others, The World and Life's Situations, and solve for happiness!

To be continued.

To my knowledge the position of the United States remains the same, namely that the Territorial Clause does apply to the Commonwealth. How and when this impasse will be resolved is not presently known. It appears that the issue will not be resolved until a decision is made by the U. S. Supreme Court.

To be continued.

SOLVING

From Page 10

neighbors? You're unhappy because you expect everyone to value peace and quiet the way you do. Change your expectation.

Now, I'm not saying you don't have a right to be disappointed when certain things happen. What I'm saying is that you also are able to make a choice as to how to respond. You could actually choose to be tolerant when others don't behave the way you'd like

A BRIEF

From Page 11

to bring them into the American political family. The federal government just as clearly does not have the power to alter the terms of that agreement without the consent of the people of



NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS BAR EXAMINATION

The Northern Mariana Islands Bar Examinations (MBE, MPT, and Essay) will be administered on Wednesday, July 28, 2010 and Thursday, July 29, 2010. Interested applicants may obtain the application form and necessary information from the Bar Administrator by calling telephone no. (670) 236-9800, visiting the judiciary's website at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>, or by writing to P.O. Box 502165, Saipan, MP 96950.

All applications and required fees must be submitted to the Bar Administrator no later than May 28, 2010.

Dated this 7th day of May, 2010.

NORA V. BORJA
Bar Administrator

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on May 20, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before May 20.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.

* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than May 20. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or visit our Customer Service Representatives at our Chalan Lau-Lau Office.



To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:
SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan LauLau/Tinian/Rota Office – up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm



Life in Motion

IT&E SUMMER WORK PROGRAM

Learn about the telecommunications industry and get paid!

IT&E has 10 summer positions available for current college and high school students:

REQUIREMENTS:

- ◆ At least 16 years old
- ◆ Proof that the student is currently enrolled in school or proof that he/she will be enrolled for Fall 2010
- ◆ Official school transcript with a minimum 3.3 GPA submitted in a sealed envelope
- ◆ Recommendation, preferably from a prior instructor, advisor, dean, or principal
- ◆ Legally authorized to work in the CNMI

Some positions may also require a valid driver's license.

To apply, students must complete an IT&E application and submit it, along with other required documents, to the IT&E Human Resource office, located at the IT&E Susupe Headquarters no later than May 21, 2010. **Any inquiries must be made by the students applying.** They may call 234-6600.

IT&E is an Equal Opportunity Employer

RP Consulate General sets consular services on Tinian

After visiting Rota, the staff of the Philippine Consulate General will be visiting Tinian to conduct consular services for Filipinos there.

The consular team, headed by Consul General Medardo G. Macaraig, shall be on Rota on May 29-30 (Saturday and Sunday) at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, from 8am to 5pm on both days. The consular services shall be held during the weekend when most Filipinos are free from their busy work schedules.

To facilitate the consular processes, Filipinos who wish to have their passports renewed are requested to send in advance before May 27, 2010, to the consulate photocopies of their applications for passports. The address is Philippines Consulate General, P.O. Box 500731, CK, Saipan MP 96950, CNMI; fax 234-1849 or e-mail: saipanpcg@pticom.com All original documents shall be retained by the applicants and the consular team shall verify these documents on Tinian during the

consular services.

To receive their new passport, applicants are requested to use the registered, certified or insured mail services of the U.S. Postal Service. In this regard, passport applicants must submit, aside from the required documents, their original old passport and a self-addressed stamped registered mail. The old passport shall be cancelled and will be returned to the applicant together with the new passport and official receipt by mail.

Other inquiries may be addressed to the Philippine Consulate General at telephone 234-1850 or at the address, e-mail or fax above.

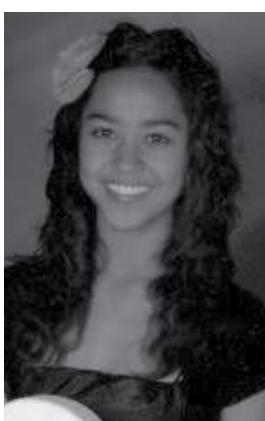
The consul general shall joined on Tinian for the consular services by OWWA representative Reynaldo Tayag, Violaflor Eneraln-Ancheta and Antonio David.

The Philippine Consulate General shall also be open on Saipan on May 30, 2010 as part of its regular one-Sunday-a-month consular services. (PR)



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 30th birthday to Lizelle T. Amirez! Wishing you happiness, love, and smiles, especially today. Cheers to good times, from your good friends at SpEd.



PROMOTION

Congratulations to Janece Mae C. Salas on your 8th Grade Promotional Ceremony at the Apache Elementary School in Peoria Arizona. We love you and are very proud of you! Love, Dad, Mom, Julia, Janece, Papa and Grandma Sinbon, Nina Verna and Kia.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BOATING SAFETY

DPS Boating Safety and U.S. Coast Guard Saipan Auxiliary personnel exam a recreational boat at Sugar Dock before it is launched. General safety gear such as lifejackets, fire extinguishers, and VHF radios are checked during these examinations. Sunday marked the beginning of the 2010 Safe Boating Week campaign for the CNMI. DPS Boating Safety and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will be at the Fishing Base today, May 19, and Smiling Cove Marina on May 22, from 8am to 12pm, to answer questions and conduct vessel safety checks of required safety equipment and functionality for recreational boaters.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CUC phones lines have technical problems

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is currently experiencing technical problems with its main telephone lines 235-7025 through 235-7032.

The power supply serving the main telephone system has malfunctioned, causing the system to shut down intermittently. Customers who call may get disconnected unintentionally. The required parts needed to fix the problem are unavailable on island. The system vendor anticipates solving the problem within a week or as soon as needed parts arrive.

The CUC trouble desk telephone lines, 235-0282/2282, are unaffected. (PR)

MRCDC meeting on Thursday

The Marianas Resource Conservation & Development Council will hold a meeting/ teleconference on Thursday, May 20, 5pm-6pm at the NRCS Saipan Service Center, DY building, Beach Road in southern Garapan. The public is invited. Call (671) 472-7447 for information, participation on Tinian, Rota, and Guam, or special accommodation for disability. (PR)

BOH hosts free seminar today on 'credit'

The Bank of Hawaii will be conducting a free seminar called "The ABCs of Credit" on Saipan today, May 19, 2010, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm, at its Pale Arnold Rd, Puerto Rico branch. The speakers are Herminio Matsumoto and Rose Sumor.

This seminar will provide you with a foundation of knowledge so that you can take control of one of your most important financial asset: your credit worthiness. In this seminar, you'll learn how to build and maintain a good credit score, how to get your credit lines back under control, and where to find help.

Bank of Hawaii's Smart Money Seminars are held as a community service throughout the year. They are free and open to anyone to attend. For more information, visit www.boh.com/pacificseminars. (BOH)

John Gonzales LIVE schedule

John Gonzales Live features the topic "Self Government, Covenant, & Citizenship." The guest is Oscar C. Rasa, spokesman for the Northern Marianas Descent for Self-Government & Indigenous Rights. He is also a former House speaker and Covenant negotiator. The show airs live today, May 19, with replays on May 23 and May 24.

On May 26, John Gonzales Live will take up the PSS Continuing Public Education Series. The guests are Joaquina DLG. Salas, principal, San Vicente Elementary School; and Martha Kintol, principal, Dandan Elementary School. The show will be replayed on May 30 & May 31.

John Gonzales Live airs Wednesday and is replayed Sunday and Monday, all at 7pm-8 pm on KSPN Channel 2.

Call 287-4230, Text 285.META (6382), or e-mail johngonzales@pticom.com for your question or comment. (PR)

NMC Graduation 2010 important dates

The Northern Marianas College is inviting all community members to its 30th Commencement Exercise on Saturday, May 22, 2010, at 4pm at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. The college is also reminding all graduates to note the following dates:

- May 20, 6pm: Graduation Mass at Chalan Kanoa Cathedral. Graduates must arrive by 5:30pm.
- May 21, 3pm: Graduation rehearsal for all graduates at MHS Gymnasium
- 5pm: Mixer Gathering at Pacific Islands Club-Seaside Grill.
- May 22, 4pm: Commencement Exercise. Graduates must arrive no later than 3:30pm. (PR)

NMC Summer 2010 registration begins today

Registration for the Northern Marianas College's Summer 2010 semester will begin today, May 19, and will continue to Friday, May 21, 2010.

New students are required to take an English and Math placement test before they register. The schedule of placement tests and the Summer 2010 class schedule can be found online at www.nmcnet.edu.

The Summer 2010 semester is divided into four sessions: Regular Summer Session (nine-week courses), Extended Summer Session (12-week courses), Summer Session I (six-week courses) and Summer Session II (six-week courses starting July 6).

Those who have not applied for admission can still do so by visiting the college's Office of Admissions and Records and picking up an application form. Application forms can also be downloaded from the NMC Web site.

Application for admissions will be accepted until the last day of registration provided that both placement tests have been taken. Note the following dates below:

Summer 2010 Important Dates

- May 19-21: Registration for Summer 2010 Semester, 9pm to 6pm.
- May 19-June 2: Registration for Summer Session II, 9pm to 6pm.
- May 26: First day of instruction
- May 31: CNMI Legal Holiday (Memorial Day)
- July 6: First day of instruction for Summer Session II

For more information regarding admissions or registration, contact OAR at 234-5498 ext. 1537 or email oar@nmcnet.edu, or log on to www.nmcnet.edu. (PR)

DPS sets seatbelt, child seat checkpoints on Rota

The Department of Public Safety will be conducting Occupant Protection Child Restraint checkpoints on the island of Rota on May 25 and 27.

The May 25, 2010 OP/CR checkpoint will first be held along San Francisco Highway Songsong Village by the Pinatang Park, from 6am to about 7:15am. The second will be in District #4 across the Aquarius Bar & Grill, from 9am to about 10:15am.

On May 27, the checkpoint will be held along Sinapalo I Village by the San Isidro Church, from 6am to 7:15am.

In addition, police officers will be conducting highway criminal interdictions, saturation patrol, aggressive driver interdictions, and laser activities. For more information, contact Sgt. Jarrod T. Manglona or Officer Tito S. Hocog at 532-9433. (DPS)

MHS Japan Club sets Saturday lunch sale

The 2010 Marianas High School Japan Club will be having a lunch sale this Saturday, May 22. The Club is offering fried chicken, barbecue ribs, coco, red rice and a drink for the price of \$5. Proceeds will go toward the class trip to Tokyo in June.

For orders or more information contact Jim Tuttle at jimbottle@yahoo.com or 237-3268. The MHS Japan Club would like to thank you for your kind assistance in helping their MHS students reach their dream of going to Japan.

MHS Parent Literacy Night

The Marianas High School is going to have a Parent Literacy Night on May 26, 2010, from 6pm to 7pm. This event will be hosted by the Math Department. Refreshments will be served. There will be lots of informational activities, students presenters, and take home arts and crafts. (MHS)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



Invitation for bid **PSS-IFB-10-052**

"PORTABLE HAND HELD RADIOS & ACCESSORIES FOR BUS DRIVERS AND PSS CENTRAL EMERGENCY TEAM"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting competitive sealed bids for the purchase of Portable Hand Held Radios and Accessories for PSS Bus Drivers and Emergency Team. The Scope of Work is available beginning May 12, 2010 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950.

Questions shall be in writing and addressed to Jack Diaz, Federal Program Coordinator via fax at (670) 664-3797 or e-mail to the following address: jack.diaz@cnmipss.org.

Bids must be placed in a sealed envelope marked "**IFB 10-052**" containing one (1) original with three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office situated on the 3rd Floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than Friday, **June 4, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.**, at which time bids, will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted.

This purchase is funded by a Grant from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147
Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp



NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

The Commonwealth Development Authority will auction various furniture and equipments from the Pacific Gardenia Hotel on Saturday, May 22, 2010.

The auction shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The items are being sold **"AS IS"** and **"WHERE IS"**;
2. The items are being sold **WITHOUT WARRANTY** of any type;
3. The public auction will be held at the **PACIFIC GARDENIA HOTEL** on **Saturday, May 22, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.**
4. Full payment is required before items can be removed from the premises and Buyer is responsible for removing purchased items;
5. Terms of the sale are cash, credit card - minimum \$100 (MC and Visa only) or certified check; and
6. CDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to withdraw this notice and postpone the sale.



The hotel will be open for inspection on Thursday and Friday, May 20 and 21 from 1 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

/S/ **MANUEL A. SABLÁN**
Executive Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID **PSS IFB 10-040**

"REPLACE/REPAIR OF DOORS AND WINDOWS FOR ROTA JR. HIGH AND ROTA HIGH SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the Replacement/Repair of Doors and Windows of Rota Jr. High and Rota High School on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on May 5, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$55.50.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 24, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Rota Jr. High School Teacher's Lounge on Rota. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than May 27, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-040, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m., local time, June 2, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 3rd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



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INVITATION FOR BID **PSS IFB 10-041**

"REPLACE/REPAIR OF DOORS AND WINDOWS OF TINIAN SCHOOLS"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the Replacement/Repair of Doors and Windows of Tinian Elementary and Tinian High School, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on May 5, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$53.95.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 25, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Tinian Elementary School Library on Tinian. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than May 28, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-041, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m., local time, June 3, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 3rd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

Business

Scientists worry current could carry oil to Keys

ROBERT, La. (AP)—With BP finally gaining some control over the amount of oil spewing into the Gulf of Mexico, scientists are increasingly worried that huge plumes of crude already spilled could get caught in a current that would carry the mess all the way to the Florida Keys and beyond, damaging coral reefs and killing wildlife.

Scientists said the oil will move into the so-called loop current soon if it hasn't already, though they could not say exactly when or how much there would be. Once it is in the loop, it could take 10 days or longer to reach the Keys.

"It's only a question of when," said Peter Ortner, a University of Miami oceanographer.

In the month since an offshore drilling platform exploded, killing 11 workers, BP has struggled to stop the leak, trying in vain to activate emergency valves and lowering a 100-ton box that got clogged with icy crystals. Over the weekend, the oil company finally succeeded in using a stopper-and-tube combination to siphon some of the gushing



An undated image provided by the NOAA shows a shallow-water coral reef a gray angelfish swimming amongst soft corals in the Florida Keys.

oil into a tanker, but millions of gallons are already in the Gulf.

The loop current is a ribbon of warm water that begins in the Gulf of Mexico and wraps around Florida. Some scientists project the current will draw the crude through the Keys and then up Florida's Atlantic Coast, where the oil might avoid the beaches of Miami and Fort Lauderdale but could wash up around Palm Beach.

Many scientists expect the oil

to get no farther north than Cape Canaveral, midway up the coast, before it is carried out to sea and becomes more and more diluted.

The pollution could endanger Florida's shoreline mangroves, seagrass beds and the third-longest barrier reef in the world, the 221-mile-long Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, which helps draw millions of snorkelers, fishermen and other tourists whose dollars are vital to the state's economy.

GM roars back to profit, but can it repay gov't?

DETROIT (AP)—In less than a year, General Motors Co. has roared back from bankruptcy to a quarterly profit. Now comes the hard part: Sustaining the income and repaying billions of dollars in government aid.

There are signs that GM is on track to do just that. Revenue is up 40 percent over the first quarter of last year. U.S. sales rose 17 percent for the quarter, and the automaker made an operating profit in North America, which had been a cash incinerator.

Units in Asia and Latin America posted strong numbers, too.

As a result, the automaker announced Monday, its net income rose to \$865 million, a dramatic reversal from the \$6 billion the company lost in the same period last year.

"Today's news was wonderful, and even better than we ever expected to be this far in the post-restructuring period," said Steven Rattner, former head of the Obama administration's Auto Task Force.

To keep GM afloat and get it through bankruptcy court, the U.S. government gave the company \$50 billion. GM repaid \$6.7 billion that the government considered loans, with the remaining \$43.3 billion converted to a 61 percent stake in the automaker.

For the Treasury to break even, GM will have to make a lot more money and show prospects for even more profits in the future for its shares to be worth enough to cover the debt.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Treasury takes \$1.6 billion loss on Chrysler loan

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Treasury Department said Monday it will lose \$1.6 billion on a loan made to Chrysler in early 2009. Taxpayer losses from bailing out Chrysler and General Motors are expected to rise as high as \$34 billion, congressional auditors have said. Treasury said Monday that Chrysler repaid \$1.9 billion of a \$4 billion loan, which was extended before the company filed for Chapter 11. The government hopes to get another \$500 million from the company that emerged from bankruptcy, Chrysler Group LLC. Treasury officials said that the government had no plans to boost its stake in the new Chrysler to cover those losses. It also acknowledged another \$1.9 billion in potential losses from a separate loan that had been made to the company that went through bankruptcy proceedings. It indicated slim hopes of recouping much if anything from that separate \$1.9 billion loan.

Study on cell phone link to cancer inconclusive

GENEVA (AP)—If there's one lifestyle tool that's ubiquitous, from American cities to remote villages of the developing world, it's the mobile phone. But with its meteoric rise came concerns about safety and whether it can cause brain tumors. The frustratingly unresolved debate erupted again this week with the release of a \$24 million U.N. study covering 13 nations that suggests frequent cell phone use

may increase—albeit marginally—the chances of developing a rare but deadly form of brain cancer. What is more, since cancers takes years, even decades to develop—longer than cell phones have been in widespread use—even the study's authors say there is no way yet to tell how big the risk is, if there is one. Experts were nearly unanimous in saying the results of the study are inconclusive. But the fact that it turned up even some evidence of an increased cancer risk may cause some disquiet among people who have become accustomed to seeing the device as extensions of themselves.

Eurozone nations defend currency union

BRUSSELS (AP)—Eurozone finance ministers defended the euro as a "credible" currency on Tuesday, despite its slide to four-year lows against the dollar, as they sought to tame the fears that have gripped financial markets in recent weeks. Investors fear that as European nations make painful spending cuts to rein in their swelling debt, growth will be stifled for years to come. There are also concerns that governments' rescue efforts for debt-laden EU countries, combined with the European Central Bank's move to buy government bonds, could cause inflation to rise. Those worries have helped fuel the euro's fall to the lowest level against the dollar since April 2006 and hiked the price of gold, traditionally a safe haven when markets lose faith in other assets.

Nation

Ariz. immigration law divides police across US

PHOENIX (AP)—Arizona's tough new law cracking down on illegal immigration is dividing police across the nation, pitting officers against their chiefs and raising questions about its potential to damage efforts to fight crime in Hispanic communities.

Two officers are challenging the law in court, while police unions that lobbied for it are defending it against criticism from police officials.

Both sides are debating how a law such as Arizona's can be enforced, without leading to racial profiling of Hispanics and

without alienating residents in Hispanic neighborhoods with whom police have spent years trying to build trust.

"Before the signing of this bill, citizens would wave at me," said David Salgado, a 19-year Phoenix police officer who sued the city and the governor asking that the law be blocked. "Now they don't even want to make eye contact."

Still, police unions say, many of their officers in Arizona, the nation's busiest corridor for illegal immigration and smuggling, are tired of feeling helpless.

less when dealing with people they believe are in the country illegally. Those officers want a tool to arrest them.

"Crime is not based upon skin color, it's based upon conduct," said Mark Spencer, president of the Phoenix Law Enforcement Association, the union representing Phoenix officers that lobbied aggressively for the law.

It requires police enforcing another law to verify a person's immigration status if there's "reasonable" suspicion they are in the U.S. illegally.

Court rules out some life sentences for juveniles

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court took two cracks at one of the law's thorniest questions Monday: When can you lock up a prisoner and throw away the key? Not when it's a teenager who hasn't killed anyone, the justices said. But when it's a "sexually dangerous" inmate, maybe so, even if he has completed his federal prison sentence.

By a 5-4 vote, the court said young people serving life prison terms must have "a meaningful opportunity to obtain release" if they haven't killed their victims.

Lawyer: Video shows police fired into Detroit home

the majority opinion by Justice Anthony Kennedy extended the "children are different" rationale that drove his decision five years ago that outlawed the death penalty for killers under 18.

The court ruled in the case of Terrance Graham, who was implicated in armed robberies when he was 16 and 17. Graham, now 23, is in prison in Florida, which holds 60 percent of juvenile defendants who are locked up for life for crimes other than homicide.

"The state has denied him any chance to later demon-

strate that he is fit to rejoin society based solely on a non-homicide crime that he committed while he was a child in the eyes of the law," Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote in his majority opinion. "This the Eighth Amendment does not permit."

In a second case, the court voted 7-2 to uphold a federal law that allows for the indefinite imprisonment of inmates considered mentally ill and "sexually dangerous," no matter that their sentences have been served.

the home from the porch.

"There is no question about what happened because it's in the videotape," Fieger said. "It's not an accident. It's not a mistake. There was no altercation."

Aiyana Jones was shot from outside on the porch. The videotape shows clearly the officer throwing through the window a stun grenade-type explosive and then within milliseconds of throwing that, firing a shot from outside the home," he said.

ACROSS THE NATION

US court grants asylum to Obama's African aunt

CLEVELAND (AP)—A U.S. immigration court has granted asylum to President Barack Obama's African aunt, allowing her to stay in the country and setting her on the road to citizenship after years of legal wrangling, her attorneys announced Monday. The decision was made by a judge in U.S. Immigration Court in Boston and mailed out Friday. It comes three months after Kenya native Zeituni Onyango, the half-sister of Obama's late father, testified at a closed hearing in Boston. People who seek asylum must show that they face persecution in their homeland on the basis of religion, race, nationality, political opinion or membership in a social group.

Air Force: Tests didn't include troubled GPS unit

DENVER (AP)—The military did no advance testing on a specific type of military GPS receiver that had problems picking up locator signals after a change in ground-control software, the Air Force said Monday. The Air Force tested other equipment, but none of it contained the type of receiver that was unable to lock on to Global Positioning System satellites after the change, said Joe Davidson, a spokesman for the Air Force Space

and Missile Systems Center. The manufacturer of the receivers, Trimble Advanced and Military Systems, said it ran its own advance tests using specifications from the Air Force GPS Wing and found no problems.

US officials begin review of New Orleans police

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Federal authorities launched a top-to-bottom review of the troubled New Orleans Police Department on Monday, a probe requested by Mayor Mitch Landrieu, who predicted it will result in court-ordered transformation of a department beleaguered by allegations of sometimes deadly brutality. Assistant U.S. Attorney General Tom Perez said the investigation will include lawyers and non-lawyers with broad experience in police issues. At a news conference with Landrieu, Perez said the probe will be independent of ongoing federal criminal investigations of the department. Those include the probe of the fatal 2005 shootings of unarmed citizens at the Danziger bridge in the chaotic aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Perez, who heads the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, said other such independent examinations by the department have resulted in successful change at other cities' police departments, including Los Angeles.

Asia

Hopes for brokered talks in Thailand

BANGKOK (AP)—Hopes rose Tuesday for an end to deadly mayhem in Thailand's capital as leaders of a protest movement occupying central Bangkok said they would unconditionally accept an offer by the Thai Senate to mediate talks.

Scattered violence continued Tuesday in the standoff between soldiers and anti-government Red Shirt protesters that has killed 37 people in the past six days.

The country's upper house of Parliament on Monday offered to broker negotiations between the warring sides providing they both stopped that fighting that has transformed large swaths of downtown Bangkok to a war zone.

A Red Shirt leader, Weng Tojirakarn, told a news conference "we accept the proposal from the Senate." Another protest leader, Nattawut Saikua, said, "It would not be right if I set conditions for the Senate."

It was not immediately known whether the government had agreed to the Senate talks.

In perhaps the most hopeful of recent signs that Thailand's two-month-long crisis could be resolved, both sides Monday evening also revealed that the government's chief negotiator and a Red Shirt leader had discussed negotiations in a mobile telephone call.



Onlookers watch from an overhead bridge as smoke billows during a clash between anti-government protesters and Thai army in Bangkok, Thailand, Monday, May 17, 2010.

But previous attempts to negotiate an end to the standoff—which has destabilized a country once regarded as one of Southeast Asia's most stable democracies—have failed. A government offer earlier this month to hold November elections founded after protest leaders made more demands.

Meanwhile, violence continued unabated on Bangkok's streets with security forces arresting a 12-year-old boy Tuesday morning for allegedly setting fire to several houses during the mayhem.

At least 37 people—mostly civilians—have been killed and 266 wounded since the government began a blockade last Thursday on a sprawling

Rebels blow up bus in India, killing at least 35

NEW DELHI (AP)—Maoist rebels blew up a bus filled with police and civilians Monday as it drove through central India, killing at least 35 people, police said.

Nineteen civilians and 16 police officers were killed in the attack that took place in the state of Chhattisgarh, which has been the site of fierce fighting between the Maoists and government forces in recent months, said Amarnath Upadhyaya, a senior police officer.

The bus was hit by a rebel land mine, said Rajender Ku-

mar Vij, another top police official in the area.

Police often ride in civilian buses, apparently in an attempt to avoid rebel attack—hoping that the insurgents would not target such vehicles for fear of losing local support.

Amarnath Upadhyaya, another senior police officer, said the front of the bus was destroyed and 40 to 60 people were on board.

The Press Trust of India reported that at least 40 people were killed in the attack.

World

Iran to ship uranium to Turkey in nuclear deal

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran agreed Monday to ship much of its low-enriched uranium abroad and then rolled out a new obstacle to nuclear compromise by insisting it would press ahead with higher enrichment—bringing it closer to being able to make atomic warheads.

The deal forged with Turkey and Brazil appeared to be another attempt to stave off U.N. sanctions—a doubtful endeavor judging by reactions from the United States and other Western powers.

The White House showed deep skepticism about the pact, warning it still allows Iran to keep enriching uranium toward the pursuit of a nuclear weapon.

"Given Iran's repeated failure

to live up to its own commitments, and the need to address fundamental issues related to Iran's nuclear program, the United States and international community continue to have serious concerns," White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said.

Still, by involving Turkey and Brazil, Iran ramped up the pressure on Washington over additional U.N. sanctions.

The deal moves these two influential Security Council members closer to Tehran and presents the U.S. and its Western allies with a bloc of developing nations that back Iran's right to pursue a nuclear program.

In announcing the accord, Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim and his Turkish counterpart, Ahmet Davutoglu, said Tehran has the right to "a full nuclear fuel cycle, including enrichment activities for peaceful purposes" and condemned any new sanctions against Iran.

Both countries are important for Washington—Brazil is South America's largest nation and has a dominant role on the continent, while Turkey, a key NATO ally and a traditional regional U.S. mainstay, has moved to develop an increasingly independent voice.

While they have no Security Council veto, both are skeptical of the U.S.-led drive for a fourth set of Security Council sanctions to punish Tehran's refusal

to stop its enrichment activities.

And the Iranian maneuver could weaken growing resolve by Russia and China—which

do have veto power—to support new sanctions.

Moscow and Beijing were responsible for watering down

the language of previous anti-Iran sanctions but appeared to swing behind the U.S., Britain and France recently.

British officials relax safety rules over ash

LONDON (AP)—Aviation authorities introduced relaxed flight safety rules Monday to minimize more disruptions caused by a volcano eruption in Iceland, as three of Europe's busiest airports reopened after a dense volcanic ash cloud dissipated.

Britain's Civil Aviation Authority said it agreed with airlines, regulators and engine manufacturers on new rules that would let planes fly for a limited time through higher ash densities than currently allowed. The rules—which go into effect midday Tuesday—are subject to airlines getting a guarantee from their engine makers that their aircraft can safely tolerate the ash.

The body said that so far British budget carrier Flybe was the only airline that satisfied those conditions, but it expected other airlines to follow soon and European authorities to introduce similar rules.

British air traffic control company NATS said the new rules meant that restrictions on British airspace could now be eased.

"There is mounting evidence that aircraft can fly safely through areas of medium density, provided some additional precautions are taken. This is now what has been agreed," the company's CEO Richard Deakin said. "As a result of this change, there are no predicted

restrictions on U.K. airspace in the immediate future."

London's Heathrow and Gatwick airports and Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport—some of Europe's biggest air travel hubs—reopened Monday after they closed because of volcanic ash worries. All three warned travelers it would take time for airlines to clear the backlog of delayed flights and to contact their airlines before going to the airport.

All British, Scottish and Irish airspace will remain open at least until early Tuesday, but airspace over the North Sea was still restricted, affecting some helicopter operations.



Source: Met Office, BBC, ESRI
Graphic: Melina Yingling

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WORLD BRIEFS

Marchers decry Haiti leader for quake response

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Haitian protesters marched to the collapsed national palace for a second straight Monday to criticize President Rene Preval, saying he failed the nation in the aftermath of its catastrophic earthquake. At least 1,000 people marched to the center of the wrecked capital, where local police and U.N. peacekeepers stood guard. Tens of thousands more watched from the plastic-tarp-covered plots where they have lived since the Jan. 12 disaster. The protesters said that Preval has failed to help an estimated 1.5 million people left homeless by the quake and that he overstepped his authority by saying he would remain in office for up to three months beyond his term if elections cannot be held

by late November.

US missionary convicted in Haiti, but free to go

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—The last of 10 Americans detained while trying to take 33 children out of Haiti after the Jan. 12 earthquake was freed Monday when a judge convicted her but sentenced her to time already served in jail. Laura Silsby, the organizer of the ill-fated effort to take the children to an orphanage being set up in the neighboring Dominican Republic, returned to her cell briefly to retrieve belongings before quickly heading to the Port-au-Prince airport. "I'm praising God," Silsby told The Associated Press as she waited for a flight out of Haiti. She declined to answer further questions before clearing immigration and heading through a gate

to catch a plane to Florida.

Report: Nigeria's police brutalize, kill suspects

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Nigeria's federal police force kills with impunity, extorts those it's charged to protect and rapes arrested prostitutes as a "fringe benefit" of the job, a report by a civil liberties group alleges. The Open Society Justice Initiative's report released Monday is the latest stain on Nigeria's corrupt and maligned police force, which at its mildest merely demands bribes from motorists at roadblocks. At its worst, the report alleges the police rub chemical mace and hot chili pepper into the genitals of those it arrests, drawing out dubious confessions officers use as an excuse to summarily execute those they describe as "armed robbers."



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NMHC RFP 2010-R-005

ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE SAIPAN LEADERSHIP MEMORIAL KIOS KU PROJECT, PHASE II

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, is soliciting Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Architectural and Engineering Design Services for the Saipan Leadership Memorial Kios Ku Project, Phase II, Chalan Kanoa Village, District No. 2, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This design services is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant, through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009(CDBG-R).

Local Business Preference as amended by Public Law 15-95 and further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local proposers in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal Law granting the funding for this project.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations dated May 24, 2001. Proposals procedures shall be in full compliance with section 4-102 of the regulations.

Prior to being awarded a design contract, the firm or company must be have or obtain a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Board of Professional Licensing.

The Scope of Work (SOW) will be available on or after **Wednesday, May 19, 2010**, at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's Office, Saipan. No fees required in obtaining the proposal package. Pre-Proposal Conference is schedule on **Tuesday, June 1, 2010, at 10:00 a.m.** at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's Office Conference Room. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, NMHC, Saipan, fax to (670) 234-9021 no later than **Wednesday, June 2, 2010, 4:30 p.m.**, local time.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and Schedule of completion, with details how the work will be accomplished by the consultants, given the time requirements and resources available as identified in their proposals.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (names and experience) not to exceed twenty five (25) pages. Note that firm that submits a proposal as a prime consultant, **cannot** submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractor may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposal will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Professional qualifications necessary for satisfactory performance of services – 30%
2. Project approach – 20%
3. Capacity to accomplish the work in the required time – 25%
4. Past performance on contract with Government on similar projects – 25%

Proposals must be sealed and marked **NMHC RFP 2010-R-005: Architectural and Engineering Design Services for the Saipan Leadership Memorial Kios Ku Project, Phase II**. For proposal within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, **Tuesday, June 08, 2010**. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) workings for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to submit proposal must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, **Tuesday, June 08, 2010**, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be marked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal services of a foreign country no later than **Tuesday, June 08, 2010** AND must be received no later than **Tuesday, June 15, 2010**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, **Tuesday, June 15, 2010**. However, if no Notices of Intent to Bid are received from bidders outside of the CNMI, the bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m., local time, **Tuesday, June 08, 2010**.

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

A contract shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect-engineer firm at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable can not be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms maybe selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reason price is agreed upon;

The successful proposer(s) will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with CNMI Procurement and Supply Regulations Section 3-301.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer(s) awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become the property of the Government.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

Campus Life

Five JROTC battalions loosen up in military ball



After three years of waiting, the CNMI Multiple School Unit Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps Military Ball was once again hosted by the Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Battalion, under the command of cadet Lt. Col. Ruby Anne E. Reyes, at the Royal Taga Ballroom of the Saipan World Resort on May 8, 2010—just a day before Mother's Day. The event was attended by about 300 people.

The Ball was organized to bring cadets from all of the five CNMI battalions together so they could mingle, get acquainted, reconnect, and remind each other of the main mission of the JROTC program, which is to motivate young people to be better citizens.

The formal event was well attended and had several distinguished guests such as Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan; the director of Army Instruction, Lt. Col. Robert Gay; the five CNMI high schools' principals and vice principals; Sgt. Maj. Jesus Muña, director of Customs Services; Ray Tiguilau, PSS program manager for the Social Studies Department; and former Education Commissioner Dr. David Borja, who surprised many cadets with his service uniform.

The SSHS Manta Ray Battalion Color Guard posted the colors. Cadets Maj. Genelin Camacho and Capt. Rachel Sumor performed hosting duties. The Inatus Cultural Dance Group performed and had some cadets who are members of the group dance with them, including cadet Capt. Welinton David, the Bravo company commander of the Manta Ray Battalion.

2Lt. Joseph Sablan from the University of Guam SROTC spoke to the room that he is very proud to be one of the graduated cadets of the CNMI MSU JROTC, while Dr. Sablan gave recognition to the Army instructors that handle the program. Cadet Capt. Mark San Juan, the Battalion special projects officer of the SSHS Manta Ray Battal-

ion, also prepared a movie presentation that featured the different battalions.

Manta Ray Battalion commander cadet Lt. Col. Ruby Anne E. Reyes reminded her fellow cadets of the true definition and challenges of leadership, quoting

John Wooden: "Ability may take you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there."

The night's guest speaker was Ranger Nancy Ann Kelchner of the American Memorial Park, who said that, although a leader can possess loyalty, duty, re-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan gives recognition to the Army instructors that handle the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps program in the CNMI during the Military Ball held on May 8 at the Royal Taga Ballroom of the Saipan World Resort.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ranger Nancy Ann Kelchner of the American Memorial Park is presented with a plaque of appreciation.



spect, self-less service, honor, integrity, personal courage, and character, he or she must have imagination as well.

Door prizes such as Sunday brunch buffets and waterpark passes were raffled off at the end of the evening. The top prizes were an iPod Nano, a Canon camera, two round-trip tickets to Guam, and a 32" LCD High-Definition TV. These were won by two students from the Manta Ray Battalion and two distinguished guests. (*Cadet Maj. Genelin Anne Camacho*)

Tinian's Stallion Battalion retains 2010 Academic Challenge trophy

Just 12 hours after the end of the CNMI MSU JROTC Military Ball, cadets joined once again for another event—the JROTC Academic Challenge—that was held on May 9, 2010, Mother's Day. It was attended by 30 cadets, composed of six per school. The competition's purpose was to test the cadets' knowledge of the JROTC curriculum and challenge their test-taking capabilities. The contest was held at the classroom 1 of Saipan Southern High School JROTC and lasted from 10am to 11am, although the cadets had to be there by 9am.

The winner of the competition is the incumbent champion, Ti-



nian High School Stallion Battalion.

The questions were presented via the Classroom Performance Systems and were extracted from what the cadets should know from experience and books. The questions were chosen and approved by all instructors.

Lunch was provided afterwards and the Rota High School Buck Battalion and Tinian High School Stallion Battalion cadets returned home.

Congratulations to Tinian High School Stallion Battalion and to all of the participants! Remember, you are all winners! (*Cadet Maj. Genelin Anne Camacho*)

Life & Style

Fox vows to boost 'Idol' in outlining new season

NEW YORK (AP)—Fox executives promised to boost a sagging “American Idol” as they confidently outlined plans on Monday for a new season and declared the network the one that “delivers America’s favorite shows.”

Fox is making a special effort to establish new comedies next season, introducing shows that feature Keri Russell and Cloris Leachman. Its big-ticket drama is a fantasy adventure series from Steven Spielberg, although executives conceded there’s a chance



Cowell

it won’t be ready next season.

Fox will finish the 2009-10 TV season as the second most popular network behind CBS but first among the 18-to-49-year-old audience it targets for a record sixth straight year. Its executives told advertisers on Monday that they won’t see a richer,

more diverse array of programming from another network during this week of schedule announcements.

“Fox delivers America’s favorite shows,” said Peter Rice, entertainment chairman of the Fox Networks Group.

Still, its most compelling mystery for next season remains: Who will replace Simon Cowell when he leaves “American Idol” this month?

That search is top priority for Fox this summer, Rice said

“We have to find a judge to replace

Simon who provides both musical credibility and an incredible entertainment value,” he said. “Anytime you have a change, it’s something you have to do right.”

While it’s still television’s favorite show, “American Idol” has seen its ratings drop by 8 percent this season, according to the Nielsen Co. In response to viewer requests for more performances, Fox will increase the Tuesday night competition show from an hour to 90 minutes. The Wednes-

day results show will be chopped in half to 30 minutes.

Fox is giving extra attention to “Glee” in its second season, even though fans will get a scheduling challenge. A special episode of the show will get the prime post-Super Bowl time slot next season.

“Glee” will air Tuesdays at 8 p.m. in the fall, ahead of two new comedies. After the Super Bowl, it will switch to Wednesdays at 9 p.m., following the “American Idol” results show.

Arab-Americans delight in Miss USA victory

NEW YORK (AP)—Donald Trump’s Miss USA pageant sure knows how to make headlines.

Arab-Americans rejoiced Monday over the crowning of raven-haired beauty Rima Fakih, a 24-year-old Lebanese immigrant from Michigan, calling it a victory for diversity in the United States, especially at a time when Arabs suffer from negative stereotypes in this country—and anti-immigrant sentiment is in the news.

Meanwhile, some harsh critics wondered if Trump’s Miss USA organization was trying to send a message, sniping that the victory amounted to “affirmative action,” or implying the first runner-up, Miss Oklahoma USA, suffered unfairly because of an answer she gave supporting Arizona’s new immigration law.

All this comes, of course, a year after 2009 runner-up Carrie Prejean and her views on gay marriage dominated the headlines. Suddenly it seemed like the pageant had become a battleground, albeit in bikinis and flesh-baring gowns, for the hot-button political and social issues of the day.

If all that weren’t enough, photos emerged of Fakih pole-dancing in skimpy shorts and a tank top in a radio show contest in 2007. The show’s producers said they’d been contacted by representatives of the Miss Universe contest requesting more photographs and information. But the show also noted—correctly—that the photos were no more provocative than anything on the Miss USA website.

In any case, Arab-Americans were elated by the victory of Fakih, who was born into a powerful Shiite family in southern Lebanon and whose family said they celebrate both the Muslim and Christian faiths.

“With all the stigma that goes around—especially after 9/11 and how people portray Muslims and Arab-Americans—it’s just a great way to knock down all those barriers,” said Dewnya Bakri-Bazzi, 22, a Muslim law student from Dearborn, Mich., who updated her Facebook status to read, “woot woot who knows maybe I can be the next Miss America?”

Abed Ayoub, the legal director for the Washington-based Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, called the win significant. “It shows our country’s diversity and the opportunity it offers all citizens.”

He decried the negative blog postings as “disgusting.”

“Rima had a great event,” he said. “Her religion and race was not an issue during the competition, and I hope not during the judging either. She won on beauty, elegance and eloquence.”

Not that Fakih and her family hadn’t been prepared for negative publicity. Even before the pageant, Ayoub said, when Fakih had won her state pageant, his group had helped prepare the family.

“We told the family they should expect this,” Ayoub said. “We told them that some people spew hatred. But she was strong. She held her ground.”



Miss Michigan Rima Fakih, left, reacts as she is crowned Miss USA 2010 by Kristen Dalton, Miss USA 2009, Sunday, May 16, 2010 in Las Vegas.

So this victory is a reaffirmation that America is America, the land of the brave and the land of opportunity. Rima now she can be a role model for all our young people.”

Some noted that Fakih had stumbled when, in a question about birth control, she called it a “controlled substance.” And she nearly stumbled, quite literally, on her gown because of its long train. But she stayed upright.

As for Morgan Elizabeth Woolard of Oklahoma, she was asked a question—by actor Oscar Nunez of NBC’s “The Office”—about Arizona’s new immigration law. She said she supported the law, which requires police enforcing another law to verify a person’s immigration status if there’s “reasonable suspicion” that the person is in the country illegally.

“I’m a huge believer in states’ rights. I think that’s what’s so wonderful about America,” Woolard said. “So I think it’s perfectly fine for Arizona to create that law.”

Conservative bloggers like Michelle Malkin suggested the question was a trap. The pageant’s judges, who included skater Johnny Weir and NBA star Carmelo Anthony, were unavailable for comment Monday, as was Trump, whose office said he was too busy to speak about the pageant.

Fakih was born in Srifa, a village in southern Lebanon that was heavily bombed during the 2006 Israel-Hezbollah war. She moved to the United States with her family in 1993 and attended a Catholic school in New York. Her family moved to Michigan in 2003. Her sister, Rana, who moved back to Lebanon a few months ago for a new job, said she had spent the night exchanging messages with her father, Hussein, and another sister, Ruba, who were attending the competition.

“It was a beautiful surprise,” she said from Srifa. “It was not easy for Rima to reach this title. We’re very proud as Lebanese Americans and as Lebanese that Rima reached this point despite all the pressures and stereotyping about Arabs and Lebanese. She made it. She fought and reached her goal.”

Charlie Sheen sticking with ‘Two and a Half Men’

LOS ANGELES (AP)—CBS and fans of “Two and a Half Men” don’t have to fret about subtracting Charlie Sheen from TV’s top-rated sitcom.

Sheen has agreed to a new contract that will keep him on the show for two more seasons, spokesman Stan Rosenfeld said Monday evening after the deal was reached.

“To put a fitting end on the 2 1/2 months of whirlwind speculation, I’m looking forward to returning to my CBS home on Monday nights,” Sheen, 44, said in a statement, adding his thanks to CBS Corp. Chief Executive Leslie Moonves for his support.

Uncertainty had clouded Sheen’s future with the series after he told friends that he wanted to leave after seven years because he’d tired of its production demands and wanted to focus on movies. He’s in the upcoming film “Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps,” a sequel to the 1987 “Wall Street” in which he starred.

Meanwhile, the actor’s personal life remains unsettled. He has pleaded not guilty to charges stemming from a Christmas Day incident in Aspen, Colo., of alleged domestic violence involving his wife, Brooke Mueller Sheen. Sheen faces a July 21 jury trial in Colorado.

He entered a rehab facility for undisclosed treatment in February.



Sheen

Subsequent reports said that he was holding out for a payday of up to \$2 million per sitcom episode. CBS and Sheen had declined comment on the reports, and Sheen’s statement did not provide details of the new agreement.

A call to CBS for comment was not immediately returned Monday.

“Two and a Half Men,” which also stars Jon Cryer, is a key part of CBS’ Monday night lineup. Last year, the network gave the show a 3-year renewal, through the 2011-12

season, although Sheen’s contract was up at the end of the current season.

Uncertainty had clouded Sheen’s future with the series after he told friends that he wanted to leave after seven years because he’d tired of its production demands and wanted to focus on movies. He’s in the upcoming film “Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps,” a sequel to the 1987 “Wall Street” in which he starred.

Cruz is married to attorney Jennifer Campbell. Her lawyer, Blair Berk, had no comment.

Cruz was formerly a pastry chef for Los Angeles’ exclusive Hotel Bel-Air where he fashioned desserts for many rich and famous clients. As a result of his job, his weight ballooned to 280 pounds, according to his biography in the “Juan-Carlos Cruz Calorie Countdown Cookbook.”

He went on Discovery Health Network’s “Body Challenge” show and shed 100 pounds. He then landed his own show on Food Network, which focused on converting fattening recipes to low-calorie versions that tasted the same. The program ended in 2006.



Cruz

Ex-TV chef pleads not guilty in murder-hire plot

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Former “Calorie Commando” TV chef Juan-Carlos Cruz pleaded not guilty Monday to charges involving an alleged plot to hire two homeless men to kill his wife.

Unshaven and in handcuffs, Cruz, 48, entered the pleas to charges of attempted murder and solicitation of murder during his arraignment in Superior Court.

The former Food Network host could face life in prison if convicted. His lawyer, Shawn Chapman Holley, did not immediately respond to an e-mail from The Associated Press seeking comment.

Cruz was arrested Thursday, a week after a homeless man told the Santa Monica Police Department’s homeless liaison officers about the alleged solicitation and an investigation was launched.

The liaison officers help obtain social services for transients and try to get them off the streets, said Setareh Yavari, the city’s human services coordinator.

Bristol Palin to hit speakers' circuit

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP)—Bristol Palin is hitting the speakers' circuit and will command between \$15,000 and \$30,000 for each appearance, Palin family attorney Thomas Van Flein said Monday.

Van Flein confirmed a report by celebrity news website RadarOnline that the daughter of former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin has signed with Single Source Speakers. He added her exact fees will

depend on factors such as which group she's addressing and what she must do to prepare.

Bristol Palin, 19, is listed on the speaking group's website as available for conferences, fundraisers, special events and holidays, as well as women's, youth, abstinence and "pro-life" programs.

Her fee is denoted by four question marks, meaning "Call to discuss!" The same designation is given to New Orleans

Saints quarterback Drew Brees.

A message left late Monday for Ron Miller, with Single Source Speakers, was not immediately returned.

Bristol Palin was thrust into the spotlight as a pregnant teen during her mother's unsuccessful campaign for vice president in 2008. She had son Tripp that year and has since spoken about abstinence and the challenges of life as a young single mother.

Van Flein said Bristol Palin will be selective in the speeches she gives.

He said he believes she's interested in expanding her message beyond teen pregnancy to include her experiences on the campaign trail and in the media spotlight; her parenting approach; and her outlook on life.

Bristol Palin lives in Anchorage and works in a physician's office, Van Flein said.

Demi Moore meets with NYC publishers about memoir

NEW YORK (AP)—Demi Moore wants to tell her story.

Moore's agent, Luke Janklow, confirmed Monday that the actress is working on a memoir and is meeting with publishers in New York. He declined to comment further.

The 47-year-old Moore is

It's alumni week on 'Dancing with the Stars'

NEW YORK (AP)—Former "Dancing with the Stars" contestants Melissa Rycroft and Joey Fatone will return to the dance floor this week by performing the tango—together.

It's the first time the show has ever paired up two celebrities. Pro Mark Ballas will choreograph the number.

Fatone and Rycroft were picked by fans to perform in a contest called Design a Dance. Viewers also chose the dance style, song and costume design.

The two will dance to "Rock and Roll All Nite" by Kiss.

Fatone, a member of boy band

known for her work in the films "Ghost" and "A Few Good Men." In 1991, she posed naked and pregnant on the cover of Vanity Fair magazine.

Moore has three daughters with former husband Bruce Willis. She married Ashton Kutcher in 2005.

'N Sync, and Rycroft, Jason Mesnick's jilted fiancee on "The Bachelor," both did well in their respective turns on the show. Fatone was runner-up in season four, while Rycroft placed third in season eight. Still, they believe they'll need all the help they can get to pull off the tango.

"We'll probably have an hour attention span before we both just lose focus," jokes Rycroft.

One challenge for the couple is limited time to rehearse. Fatone lives in Orlando and Rycroft lives in Dallas, so the two said they would only have a week or so to practice.

In this May 4, 2010 file photo, actress Demi Moore attends the TIME 100 gala celebrating the 100 most influential people, at the Time Warner Center in New York. AP



Morricone, Bjork share Sweden's Polar Music Prize

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP)—Italian composer Ennio Morricone and Icelandic singer Bjork have won the 2010 Polar Music Prize, the prize committee said Monday.

They will be invited to accept the award, which includes 1 million kronor (\$130,000) each in prize money, at a ceremony in

Stockholm later this year.

The Polar Music Prize is Sweden's biggest music award and is typically shared by a pop artist and a classical musician. It was founded by Stig Anderson, manager of Swedish pop group ABBA, in 1989.

Prize committee Chairman Alfons Karabuda said 44-year-old Bjork personifies the bor-

der-breaking attributes sought by the committee, "bravely and without compromises."

Bjork sang in various Icelandic bands in the 1980's and rose to international fame with her solo album "Debut" in 1993. She has since released five more solo albums as well as film soundtracks and compilations. She also won the

Cannes Film Festival's 2000 award for best actress for her role in Lars von Trier's "Dancer in the Dark."

"With her deeply personal music and lyrics, her precise arrangements and her unique voice, Bjork has already made an indelible mark on pop music and modern culture at large, despite her relative youth," the prize committee said in its citation.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

'Buffy' actress Emma Caulfield files for divorce

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Former "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" actress Emma Caulfield has filed for divorce from her husband of more than three years. The 37-year-old Caulfield cites irreconcilable differences for the split from Cornelius Grobbelaar in documents filed last Thursday in Los Angeles Superior Court. Court documents show the pair separated May 7. They wed on Aug. 23, 2006. Caulfield played the vengeance demon Anya on the cult supernatural TV series, which ran from 1997 to 2003. Her attorney, Pedram Mansouri, would not comment when reached by phone. Attempts to contact Grobbelaar were unsuccessful.

William Shatner to star as dad in new CBS comedy

NEW YORK (AP)—William Shatner will star in his first sitcom on CBS next season. CBS has given the green light to a show on which the son of Shatner's character has more than a million followers to a Twitter

account where he writes down his father's musings. A person familiar with the development process who spoke Monday on condition of anonymity because the person wasn't authorized to talk about CBS' schedule says the Shatner series is among six new ones the network will add next season. The shows include a spinoff to the FBI profilers drama "Criminal Minds" and a remake of the 1970s police series "Hawaii Five-0." CBS also is ordering a comedy about a couple who meet in a support group for overeaters, a cop drama with Tom Selleck and a Las Vegas-based legal series.

Travolta's 2 dogs killed in Maine airport accident

BANGOR, Maine (AP)—A service vehicle at Maine's Bangor International Airport has struck and killed two dogs owned by John Travolta. The city says the accident happened after an airplane carrying members of Travolta's family landed early last Thursday and the dogs were being walked. The city issued the statement after the Bangor Daily

News newspaper confirmed the accident through an e-mail from the city manager to the City Council. A Travolta spokesman hasn't returned a telephone message left Monday seeking comment. The "Saturday Night Fever" and "Pulp Fiction" actor is an accomplished pilot who often flies to Bangor while en route to his home on Islesboro, off the Maine coast. It's unclear whether he was in the cockpit the night his dogs died.

Ozzy Osbourne expresses condolences on Dio's death

NEW YORK (AP)—Ozzy Osbourne is expressing his sadness over the death of Ronnie James Dio. Dio died Sunday of stomach cancer at the age of 67. He had replaced Osbourne in Black Sabbath in 1980. On Monday, Osbourne paid respects to the man who would reshape the legendary heavy metal band. Said Osbourne in a statement: "I was very saddened to hear of the passing of Ronnie James Dio. Metal has truly lost one of its greatest voices. My heart goes out to his family and to his many fans." He added: "Love and respect."

Affair with stripper exposed by paper trail from jewelry

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My husband had an affair with a stripper. I found out about it because he bought her some jewelry and was stupid enough to have the bill sent to our home.

We have been married more than 20 years and I love him, but this haunts me every day. I am heartbroken, but I'm trying to make our marriage work. He never admitted to any of it and says nothing happened between them.

I don't know whether to keep on trying or leave him and hope to get on with my life. What's your advice?

WOUNDED HEART IN OKLAHOMA



Dear Abby

DEAR WOUNDED HEART: You have my sympathy, but one person can't save a marriage alone. It takes effort on the part of both husband and wife, plus honest communication and often professional counseling to heal a relationship when there has been infidelity. Your husband may say "nothing" happened with the stripper, but the only man I can think of who bought jewelry for a woman he wasn't related to or romantically involved with was Michael Jackson when he gave some to Elizabeth Taylor.

Even though you love your husband, it's time to start taking care of yourself. And the place to start is by insisting on professional counseling. If he won't go, go without him.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have a 24-year-old developmentally disabled son who lives with us. Three months ago, he met a nice girl at the mental health program he attends. They hold hands, go to the movies and occasionally smooch.

Recently, "Jasper" had a mark on his neck. We were over at a friend's house for dinner when my best friend noticed the mark. She then proceeded to tell me I should consider getting Jasper "fixed." At first, I wasn't sure I'd heard her correctly, so I asked her to repeat it. I am shocked that she thinks I should have my son sterilized.

Jasper is diagnosed with ADD and Asperger's syndrome. According to his mental health counselor, he could someday be married, have children and lead a productive, independent life. It just may take him longer to get to that point in comparison with his peers.

How should I respond to my friend about her suggestion? When she made it, I didn't know what to say.

SPEECHLESS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEAR SPEECHLESS: If you still want to maintain the friendship with the woman, tell her what your son's mental health counselor said about his prospects for the future. But first, if you haven't already, make sure Jasper clearly understands everything he needs to know to protect himself and his nice girlfriend from premature parenthood.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Please answer a question for me. Why do we fall in love with people who we absolutely, positively cannot have?

HEARTBROKEN IN INDIANAPOLIS

DEAR HEARTBROKEN: You have asked a question for which there is more than one answer. Some people do it because they don't recognize the warning signs quickly enough to back off before becoming enmeshed. Others can't resist a challenge. And still others do it because—believe it or not—it's less threatening than falling in love with someone we absolutely, positively CAN have.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

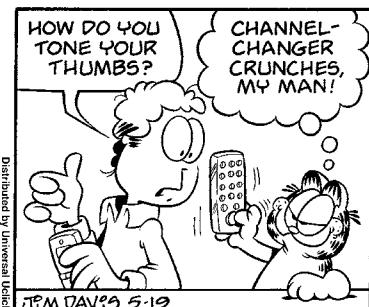


By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



By Jim Davis

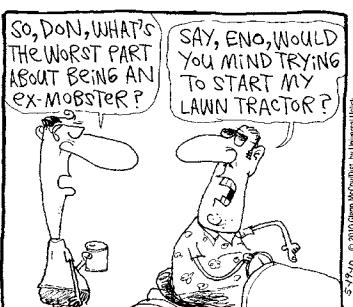


Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

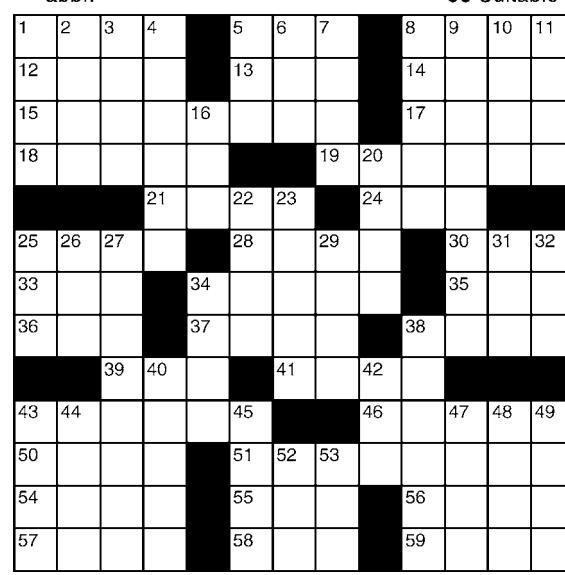


CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

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5 Whopper	46 Stares	4 Take into	(Pref.)				
8 Cruising	stupidly	custody	23 Ringo —				
12 Litigious	50 Jockey's	5 Main-	25 Occupa-				
sort	handful	lander's	tion				
13 List-end-	51 Hoagy	memento	26 Stirrup				
ing abbr.	Carmichael	6 "Monty	site				
14 Poker	classic	Python"	27 Pesky				
variety	opener	opener	dark-				
15 Sponge-	54 Wilder or	7 Revere-	brown				
Bob's pal	Hackman	erate	bird				
Patrick,	55 Spot on a	8 Fireplace	29 Approximate-				
e.g.	domino	residue	31 Eventual				
17 Tortoise's	56 Otherwise	9 The	aves				
challenger	57 Work units	Enter-	32 Jewel				
18 Cast	58 Still	prise,	34 Drench				
away	59 Jet forth	for one	38 Trick-				
19 Fairy king	DOWN	10 Continen-	taking				
of folklore	1 Cold War	tal coin	card				
21 Addition	nation	11 Mideast	game				
problems	(Abbr.)	gulf	40 Baseball				
24 Donkey	2 Trouba-	16 Winter	teams				
25 Witticism	dour's	ailment	42 Boss				
28 British	instrument	20 Supply	(Abbr.)				
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30 Glutton		team	well				
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35 "— had		Fiction"	Fiction"				
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36 Monokini		to	to				
lack		Brutus	Brutus				
37 Galley		49 Mulligan,	49 Mulligan,				
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38 Unwanted		52 Dead	one				
e-mail		heat	53 Suitable				
39 Geneti-							
cist's							
abbr.							

Yesterday's answer 5-19



For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5951 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

STUMPED?

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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Kyle Eastwood, 42; Grace Jones, 62; Pete Townshend, 65; Nora Ephron, 69

Happy Birthday: Remove yourself from any emotional situation you face this year before making a decision or taking action. It's in your best interest to view what's going on around you with discernment, especially when it comes to home, family or your community. Know what you want and work slowly toward your goals. Being productive will win in the end. Your numbers are 7, 12, 20, 28, 35, 37, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Try new activities and hobbies and attend events that will introduce you to new people. You will discover a hidden skill or talent. The chance to make extra cash is apparent. ☀☀☀

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Problems at home or dealing with personal issues could end in an argument if you aren't diplomatic. A mistake that disrupts your home and family will be costly. Deal with it quickly. ☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Added responsibilities may get you down but, in the long run, taking on a little more will bring you more. Use your energy wisely to accommodate what is asked of you. Love is apparent but can also cost you emotionally. ☀☀☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You need a change. Look at your options and what's available professionally. Someone you meet will have something to offer that will come in handy. You can surprise people and move ahead with your plans. ☀☀

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your past achievements will help you grab the attention of someone who can help. You must not take on responsibilities that will cut into your time or stand in the way of your own success. Love is on the rise. ☀☀☀☀

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't leave anything undone if you want to control matters. There is money to be

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't miss out because of an emotional tie to someone who is jealous or threatened by your interests. Stop second-guessing your next move. Look out for yourself and don't worry about what everyone else is doing. ☀☀

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep your plans a secret. You should catch everyone off guard in order to make the biggest impact. Travel, learning and altering your philosophy or lifestyle will help you open doors, bringing you greater freedom. Don't leave anything to chance. ☀☀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Focus on others. Trying to deal with personal issues will only cause more problems. You can make some changes to your home that will provide you with more comfort. It's time to meet new people and visit new places. ☀☀☀

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Someone may try to set you up for a fall. An emotional matter is likely to cause upset at home. Make sure everyone is being honest about how they feel, including you. Finish what you start and no one will be able to complain. ☀

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your past achievements will help you grab the attention of someone who can help. You must not take on responsibilities that will cut into your time or stand in the way of your own success. Love is on the rise. ☀☀☀☀

BIRTHDAY BABY: You are aggressive and articulate. You can separate your emotions from what needs to be done and move forward to achieve your goals. You are open-minded and insightful.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGY



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made if you are strict about how you handle your cash. Changes at home will add to your assets. Love is on the rise and a romantic evening should be your intent. ☀☀

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take a long hard look at what's behind you and what's ahead. You may have to make some tough choices. Love is apparent—if you are single, get out and socialize. Or, make plans with that special someone in your life. ☀☀

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't make promises you cannot keep. A change in your living arrangements may take you by surprise but, in the end, will be better for you.

Reconnecting with someone from your past may be difficult but will be worth your while. ☀☀

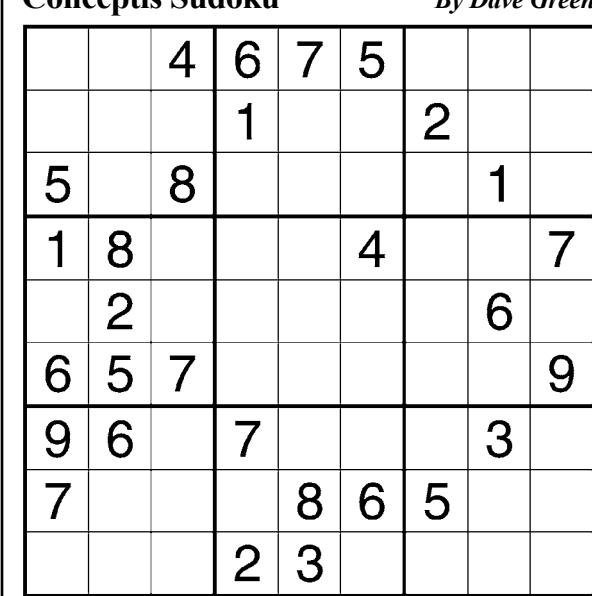
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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

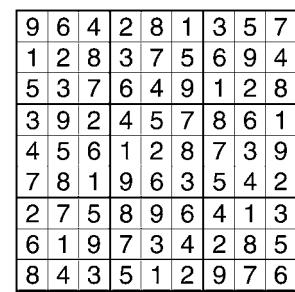
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SMARTPHONES

Solution: 8 letters

A	T	A	D	A	O	L	N	W	O	D	C	M	S	S
I	P	R	O	C	E	S	S	O	R	I	U	E	E	N
P	S	U	N	E	M	A	C	A	S	L	T	R	L	O
Y	A	E	C	O	R	D	O	U	T	A	V	S	I	I
R	R	L	I	E	I	B	M	I	D	I	D	C	F	T
O	D	R	M	T	Y	T	M	P	C	I	E	I	N	C
M	E	A	E	E	I	E	U	E	A	T	L	H	E	N
E	C	S	K	B	D	L	N	L	S	E	P	P	C	U
M	N	U	E	I	K	O	I	E	O	S	P	A	F	
O	A	R	A	G	K	C	©	B	R	S	A	R	F	M
B	V	F	R	I	A	A	H	A	G	E	G	R	E	
I	D	N	A	B	R	M	T	L	①	P	Y	R	E	T
L	A	A	N	D	R	O	I	D	B	P	A	N	T	S
E	E	T	E	C	H	N	O	G	Y	C	N	Y		
T	K	R	O	W	T	E	N	E	N	O	H	P	I	S

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For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5951 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CLASSIFIED ADS



WHATZIT Solution:
Lie through your teeth

LOST PASSPORT

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Date of Birth : November 29, 1985
Passport No. : G27912976
Expiration Date : March 12, 2018

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DAY & NIGHT



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date:	Friday 5/14/10	Closing Date:	Thursday 5/27/10
JVA No.	Position Title	Position(s)	*Salary Contract Location
10-021	Trades Assistant	Three	\$11,036 Two-years Admin./Radio Control, Saipan

Opening Date:	Friday 5/14/10	Closing Date:	Until Filled
JVA No.	Position Title	Position(s)	*Salary Contract Location
10-022	In-House Legal Counsel	One	**UNG Two-years Admin./Legal, Saipan

*For more information about the position(s) being advertised; requirements, equivalency policy, and salary; please contact or stop by the Human Resource office on the third floor of the Joeten Dandan Building. **Salary commensurate to experience.

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Phone: (670) 234-6806/7743
Fax: (670) 234-7753

Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
ROLDAN R. VILLALUZ,) FCD DI CIVIL
Petitioner,) ACTION
vs.) NO. 09-0723
MARYL R.) SUMMONS
AGUIRRE-VILLALUZ,) Respondent.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Petition for Divorce which is given you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of this Summons upon you.

YOUR ANSWER SHOULD BE IN WRITING and filed with the Clerk of Court, Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewee, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950 and served upon petitioner's counsel, Atty. Joe Hill, P.O. Box 500917, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce.

By order of the above Court:

Dated this 30th day of December, 2009.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS

	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
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• 5-Liner	\$24
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?TM

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

MOLAR CANINE

Find today's solution in this section

Kobe gets 40, Lakers rout Suns in opener



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kobe Bryant dribbled toward the Lakers' bench, luring Channing Frye and Jason Richardson along with him. Bryant leaned back and launched a feather-soft jumper over Phoenix's double team, neatly beating the first-quarter buzzer.

That's about when the Suns should have noted the bright yellow brace on Bryant's right knee is the color of a caution sign.

Even with a balky knee and a litany of additional woes, Bryant still is among the most dangerous postseason scorers in NBA history—and he had no problem giving Los Angeles an early leg up in the Western Conference finals.

Bryant scored 40 points, Lamar Odom added 19 points and 19 rebounds, and the Lakers opened the series with ruthless offensive efficiency in a 128-107 victory on Monday night.

"Just being aggressive, playing my game," Bryant said. "Got shots, took them. Got lanes to the basket, took them."

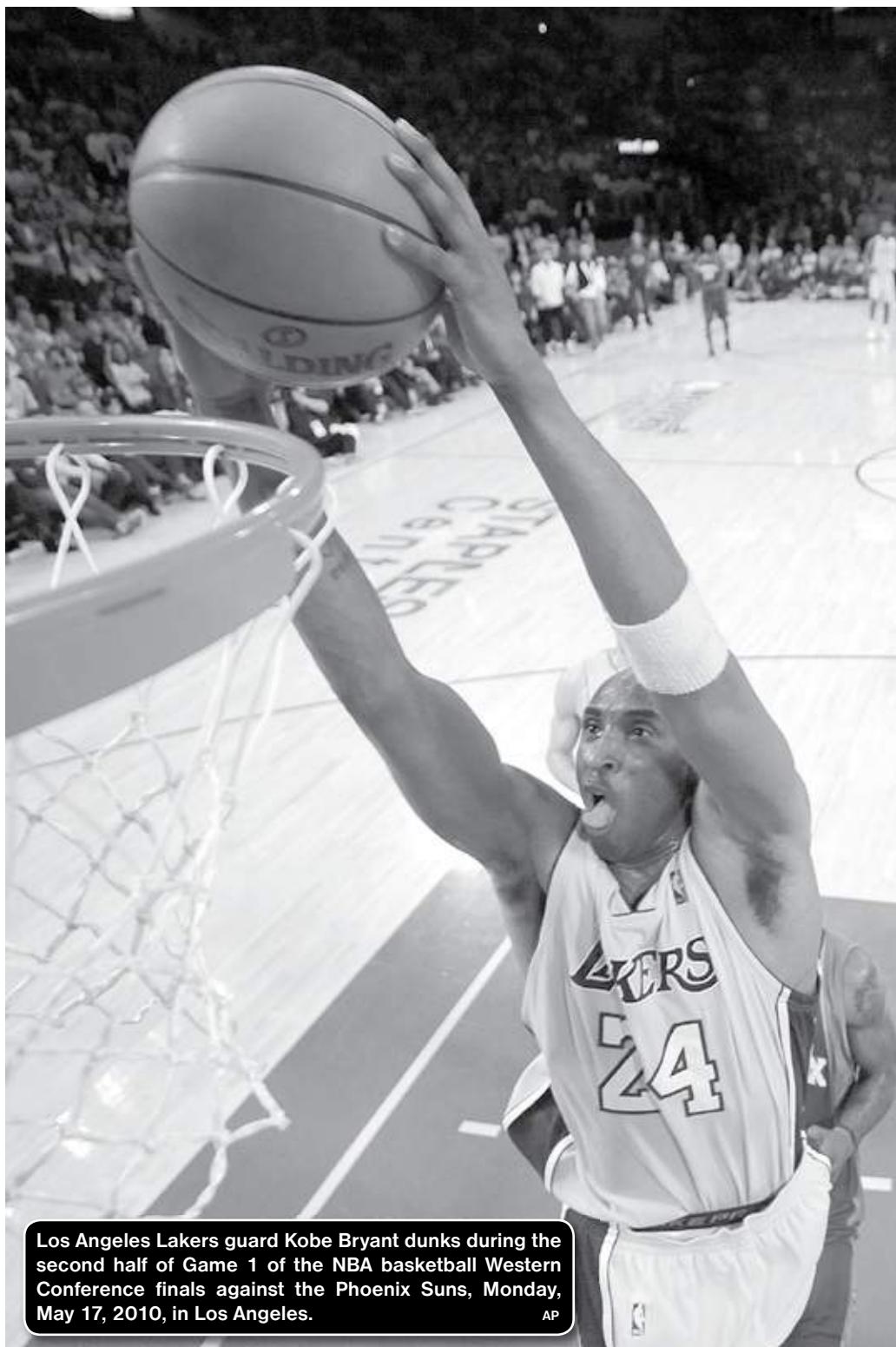
Pau Gasol had 21 points for the top-seeded Lakers, who won their seventh straight playoff game and snapped the Suns' six-game streak with a phenomenal second half, highlighted by Bryant's 21-point third quarter. He barely stepped on the Lakers' practice court during the past week to rest his ailing knee, ankle, finger and back—all minor impediments to a major talent.

"I practice so much during the season," Bryant said. "In the offseason, I work a lot. To take a week off, I'm not going to lose all the work I put in prior to that."

The defending NBA champions beat the third-seeded Suns at their own uptempo game when necessary, fluidly running the court to set up baskets for Bryant in his sixth straight 30-point game. Bryant then rested for most of the fourth quarter in the 11th 40-point game of his playoff career.

"They played great, one of the best games I've seen them play in the playoffs this season," Suns coach Alvin Gentry said. "Kobe kind of controlled the whole game. I thought we could have withstood the game that he had ... but when he's making his jumper like that, there's not a whole lot you can do about it."

Game 2 is Wednesday night at Staples Center. Amare Stoudemire scored 23 points and Steve Nash had 13 points and 13 assists for the Suns, who hadn't lost since April 24. Robin Lopez started at center and scored 14 points in his playoff debut,



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant dunks during the second half of Game 1 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals against the Phoenix Suns, Monday, May 17, 2010, in Los Angeles.

AP

but Phoenix couldn't keep up with the champs' height and 58-percent shooting in the Suns' first conference finals appearance since 2006.

The Suns also ran into the same height problems faced by Utah and Oklahoma City earlier in the Lakers' playoff run. Los Angeles committed just nine turnovers in Game 1—its third straight single-digit turnover game—while outrebounding the smaller Suns 42-34.

"They're probably going to continue to be taller than us as the series goes on, so we've got to ... make everything as tough as possible," said Nash, whose injured eye didn't bother him. "We played hard, but we didn't make enough shots, and we had a few too many breakdowns."

Both teams swept their second-round series to earn their third postseason date in five years, but the Lakers didn't allow a week off to affect their remarkable execution. They scored easily and often, even with center Andrew Bynum managing just four points while playing shakily on his own sore knee.

After a 62-point first half for the Lakers, Bryant alternated jumpers and strong drives while Los Angeles pulled away, making a 13-2 run in the third quarter. His 13-for-23 shooting performance included three 3-pointers and 11 free throws with just one miss.

"Kobe carried a lot of the offense tonight, no doubt," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said. "I will say he was going to shoulder the game. He was going to take it on. He's been very optimistic through the whole week. He felt like he had the amount of rest and shooting he had to have. He was attentive and involved (in practice)."

The Suns sent Bryant, Odom and the Lakers home for the summer in 2006 and 2007, and Los Angeles' veterans acknowledged a measure of revenge in their minds—as long as they're healthy enough to do it.

Jackson revealed before the game that Bryant's right knee was drained "a while ago," moving it to the top of the injury list for last season's NBA finals MVP. But Bryant showed no ill effects, and he even bounced back up after hitting his head on Richardson's knee during a drive in the first quarter.

"He's the best scorer in the league," said Odom, who set a career playoff high for rebounds in his most assertive game of the current postseason. "Drives, fadeaways with his back to the basket, inside-outside, with his left hand. Time off is exactly what he needed."

With Prokhorov in front row, Nets seek lottery win

NEW YORK (AP)—With their new owner sitting front row, the New Jersey Nets will have the best chance to win the NBA draft lottery.

They could sure use the help.

Mikhail Prokhorov will represent the Nets on stage Tuesday night in Secaucus, N.J., for the lottery, which his team has a 25 percent chance of winning after finishing with a league-worst 12-70 record.

Kentucky freshman point guard John Wall is considered the top prize in this year's class, with player of the year Evan Turner of Ohio State also expected to go high next month.

"From my perspective, I think that we are in a very good position. We're going to get a really good player, so I'm excited about that," Nets president Rod Thorn said. "You always want to get as high as you can, because the higher you get, the more leverage it gives you. We're hoping for the best, but we do know that wherever we end up, we'll get a good player."

The Nets can finish no worse than fourth. However, the lottery hasn't been kind to the team that needs the most assistance lately.

Not since 2004, when the Orlando Magic selected Dwight Howard, has the team with the worst record won

the lottery. Last year, the Sacramento Kings tumbled to fourth—though they did end up with eventual Rookie of the Year Tyreke Evans.

Thorn believes the lottery system works and has always been supportive of it, going back to when he worked in the league office, though he joked that, "Hopefully I won't be upset tomorrow night."

The Minnesota Timberwolves (19.9 percent) and Sacramento (15.6 percent) are the other teams with high lottery probabilities. Golden State (10.4 percent) and Washington (10.3) round out the top five.

The 14 teams that missed the playoffs are in the lottery. The lottery determines the top three picks, with the next 11 spots being determined in inverse order of a team's record.

The Timberwolves are in the lottery for the 13th time and have never improved their position, staying in the spot they were supposed to pick six times and falling six other times. Maybe that's why Wolves president of basketball operations David Kahn was trying to downplay the importance of the drawing.

"There's a tendency with tomorrow night to make everybody feel the stakes are much higher than they actually are. I

don't think the stakes are as high as people would like others to believe," he said. "Sure, would we like to be 1, 2, 3 even? Of course. But I just don't see the world becoming a very bad place for Timberwolves fans if, God forbid, we're at 4 or 5 tomorrow night."

Prokhorov, a billionaire from Russia, was approved as Nets owner by the NBA's board of governors last week. The team will formally introduce him at a news conference in New York on Wednesday.

By then, the Nets could have plenty to celebrate if a lottery pattern holds form. New Jersey won in 1990 and 2000, and now hopes the balls bounce their way in 2010.

"I think we're going to get a lot of positive buzz no matter what," Thorn said. "The cache that he brings with him, we're going to get a lot of positive feedback, particularly in this area. I think it's going to be really good for our fans and our team."

The Nets drafted Derrick Coleman with their first win and with the second grabbed Kenyon Martin, who became a starter on a team that made consecutive NBA finals appearances.

Landing the top pick would be a huge step in what the Nets hope can

be a quick turnaround. It would make them more attractive as they look to fill their vacant coaching position, and a more enticing option for one of the top free agents available this summer. New Jersey is among the teams that can af-

ford a maximum salary player.

Prokhorov's wallet and his desire to win will help with that. For now, all the Nets want from him is luck.

"If we win, we have control of the draft so to speak," Thorn said.

Howard frustrated by Celtics in Game 1 loss

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Dwight Howard knew what the Boston Celtics had planned. Whenever he got the ball in the post, someone was going to hit him, bump him, push him, do whatever it took to keep him from getting into rhythm.

It wasn't a new approach.

The Celtics simply do it better than just about everyone else.

Howard made only 3 of his 10 shots from the floor Sunday, continuing what's been a yearlong offensive struggle against the Celtics, and his Orlando Magic lost Game 1 of the Eastern Conference finals to Boston 92-88.

"I played like a robot," Howard said.

He doesn't have long for reprogramming. Game 2 is Tuesday night.

Sure, most of Howard's field-goal attempts come either through dunks,

putbacks or layups, so it's not hard to see why he perennially ranks among the NBA's best in terms of shooting percentage.

But this is telling: Howard shot less than 50 percent this season against only three teams, those being Miami, Denver and—sure enough—Boston, which has a deep number of long-armed, big-bodied defenders to get in his way. The Celtics aren't going to change their thinking, and now, it's on Howard to find a way to counter.

"We have to make plays to make it easier for him," Magic guard Vince Carter said. "Once we get down and we are hitting shots and we're making plays, I think they have to kind of worry about what we're doing, and I think it opens things up for him. Some nights where he gets rolling, it opens things up for us. So we have to kind of return the favor."

Morneau fires Twins over Blue Jays



TORONTO (AP)—

Justin Morneau homered twice as the Minnesota Twins beat the Toronto Blue Jays 8-3 on Monday, boosting their lead in the American League Central division.

Morneau went 3 for 4 with a walk and four RBIs. He hit a solo homer in the sixth inning and added a two-run drive in the eighth, his first multihomer game this season and the 13th of his career. Morneau has hit safely in 10 straight games.

Delmon Young also went deep for the Twins.

Toronto's Jose Bautista homered for the fourth time in three games, his team-leading 11th, but the Blue Jays' four-game winning streak ended.

Minnesota starter Kevin Slowey (5-3) earned his first win in five career starts against the Blue Jays.

Toronto starter Dana Eveland (3-3) took the loss.

Yankees 11, Red Sox 9

In New York, the hosts got two homers in the ninth inning to secure a thrilling win over Boston.

The Yankees were trailing by two runs in the ninth, but with one out and a runner on third, Rodriguez hit his first pitch over the fence in left-center to tie it 9-9. Boston pitcher Jonathan Papelbon (1-3) got Robinson Cano to fly out for the second out, but hit Francisco Cervelli with a pitch before Marcus Thames drove his next delivery over the wall in left.

Thames was mobbed at home plate after New York's first game-ending hit of the season.

New York's Javier Vazquez (2-4) got the win in an unfamiliar reliever role, striking out Kevin Youkilis with runners on the corners for the final out of the ninth.

Rays 4, Indians 3, 11 innings

In St. Petersburg, Jason Bartlett laid down a bunt to drive in the winning run in the 11th inning, giving Tampa Bay victory over Cleveland.

John Jaso hit a one-out single against Jamey Wright (1-2) and went to third on Gabe Kapler's single to right. Bartlett then laid down a bunt on the first base side of the mound that Wright fielded and was forced to make a desperation toss toward the plate that went over the catcher's head.

Andy Sonnanstine (1-0), the sixth Tampa Bay reliever, took the win by striking out two during a perfect 11th, helping the Rays improve to a major league-best 27-11 this season.

Rangers 4, Angels 3

In Arlington, Derek Holland pitched into the sixth inning to set up Texas' tight win over Los Angeles.

Holland (2-0) allowed five hits in 5 1-3 innings in his second start since being recalled from the minors.

Nelson Cruz drove in two runs for the Rangers, while Neftali Feliz got three outs for his ninth save in 11 chances.

Mike Napoli and Torii Hunter homered for the Angels, whose three-game winning streak ended.

Angels starter Scott Kazmir (2-4) gave up nine hits in seven innings, his longest outing of the season.

Athletics 8, Mariners 4

In Oakland, Kevin Kouzmanoff and



AP Minnesota Twins' Justin Morneau, right, celebrates with third base coach Scott Ulliger after hitting a home run during the second inning of a baseball game against the New York Yankees, Sunday, May 16, 2010, at Yankee Stadium in New York.

Adam Rosales each hit two-run homers to lift Oakland over Seattle.

Rajai Davis drove in two runs, and Daric Barton and Kurt Suzuki also had RBIs for the A's, who ended a five-game losing skid.

Gio Gonzalez (4-3) matched his season high with seven innings pitched, giving up four hits.

Seattle's Matt Tuiasosopo hit a home run, and Jose Lopez had two hits and drove in three runs as the Mariners lost their third straight.

Starter Ryan Rowland-Smith (0-4) gave up a career-worst seven runs in 4 1-3 innings, his shortest start.

Royals 4, Orioles 3

In Baltimore, Kyle Davies allowed only two runs in six innings, steering Kansas City past Baltimore.

Davies (3-2) yielded two singles in each of his first three innings, then retired nine of the final 11 batters he faced.

Joakim Soria worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the ninth for his 10th save.

A crowd of 9,299—second-smallest in the 19-year history of Camden Yards—turned out on a wet, chilly night to watch the teams with the two worst records in the AL.

Baltimore's Brad Bergesen (3-3)

Injury concerns remain as US team opens camp



PRINCETON, N.J. (AP)—Before wrapping themselves in the red, white and blue, the U.S. soccer players surrounded themselves with orange and black.

Players began training for the World Cup on Monday at Princeton University's Roberts Stadium, a \$13.4 million soccer facility opened two years ago by the alma mater of U.S. coach Bob Bradley, who also coached the Tigers from 1984-95.

Even on the first day of workouts, there were injuries that caused goalkeeper Tim Howard (quadriceps strain), defender Jay DeMerit (abdominal strain), forward Eddie Johnson (hamstring strain) and defender Chad Marshall (slight hamstring strain) to be in the trainer's room instead of sprinting across the lush, green grass, where pennants making Ivy League titles and NCAA tournament appearances flapped. Defender Carlos Bocanegra (abdominal strain) did ball work on his own.

"We've had long seasons, all of us,

and guys have some knocks," said Howard, the starter for Everton in England. "There's no reason to rush anyone into it right now. Everything is just precautionary."

Landon Donovan, Edson Buddle and Jose Torres weren't around at all, off getting physicals after reporting Sunday. Four players based in Europe were still due to arrive late Monday or Tuesday.

And there were still questions about one player who won't be coming, forward Charlie Davies.

Davies thought he recovered sufficiently from a near-fatal car crash last October to merit an invitation only to learn last Tuesday he had been omitted from the 30-man preliminary roster.

Bradley said he made the decision based on input from U.S. trainers and the staff of Davies' French club, Sochaux. Bradley even viewed a video of Davies in a recent training session in France.

He understood Davies' anger last week.

"There's a lot of emotion at that

suffered the loss.

Padres 3, Giants 1

In San Diego, the San Diego Padres stayed atop the National League West by beating the San Francisco Giants—their seventh straight win against their divisional rival.

Adrian Gonzalez homered for the Padres, who staged a form reversal, as they were coming off three straight losses while the Giants entered with three consecutive wins.

San Diego starter Clayton Richard beat Giants starter Matt Cain (2-2) for the second time in a span of six games by holding San Francisco to one run in seven innings.

Cardinals 6, Nationals 2

In St. Louis, Albert Pujols had three hits and a walk and helped fuel a four-run first inning that was enough for St. Louis to defeat Washington.

The big first inning against Nationals starter Craig Stammen (1-2) came with Pujols batted fourth in the order for the first time since 2003.

Kyle Lohse (1-3) became the final member of the St. Louis rotation to win this season.

Phillies 12, Pirates 2

In Philadelphia, Kyle Kendrick pitched eight impressive innings to guide Philadelphia to a rout of Pittsburgh.

Pitching in a steady rain, Kendrick (2-1) allowed two runs, striking out four.

Ryan Howard hit a grand slam and had six RBIs, while Jayson Werth had a three-run homer for the NL East-leading Phillies, who have won four straight.

Philadelphia got one of its injured stars back when Jimmy Rollins returned to the lineup after missing 29 games with a calf injury. The three-time All-Star shortstop and 2007 NL MVP had two hits and an RBI.

Pirates starter Charlie Morton (1-7) gave up six runs in four innings.

Mets 3, Braves 2

In Atlanta, Mike Pelfrey pitched 7 2-3 strong innings to help New York edge At-

lanta and end a five-game losing streak.

Pelfrey (5-1) became the first Mets starting pitcher to win a game this month.

Rod Barajas gave the Mets a 2-0 lead with a two-run double off Braves starter Derek Lowe (5-4) in the second.

Pedro Feliciano struck out Brian McCann with the bases loaded in the eighth to protect a one-run lead. Francisco Rodriguez pitched the ninth for his sixth save, striking out Nate McLouth with a runner on second to end the game.

Reds 6, Brewers 3

In Cincinnati, Jonny Gomes' three-run homer completed a five-run rally in the seventh inning, as Cincinnati retained the Central lead for another day by beating Milwaukee.

Gomes' homer off Todd Coffey (1-1) sent the Reds to their eighth victory in nine games. They haven't led the Central this deep into a season since 2006.

Reds starter Johnny Cueto (3-1) fanned seven, giving up Corey Hart's solo homer. Hart also homered in the ninth.

The slumping Brewers lost their season-worst seventh straight.

Diamondbacks 5, Marlins 1

In Miami, Edwin Jackson struck out a career-high 12 in eight shutout innings to lead Arizona over Florida.

Jackson (2-5), who was on the All-Star team last season, came in with a 1-5 record and 7.43 ERA. In addition to that, he was 0-3 with an ERA over 11 in four career appearances against the Marlins.

Stephen Drew, John Hester, and Conor Jackson each drove in a run for the Diamondbacks.

Florida starter Chris Volstad (3-4) took the loss.

Manuel Gonzalez became the first Venezuelan umpire in major league baseball history, working at third base.

Cubs 4, Rockies 2, 11 innings

In Chicago, Aramis Ramirez hit a two-run homer in the 11th inning, his first home run in more than a month, lifting Chicago over Colorado.

Starlin Castro opened the 11th with his third hit of the game, a single off Matt Belisle (1-1). After an out, Ramirez lined a pitch through a stiff wind into the left-field bleachers.

Ramirez, who also drove in Chicago's first run, has been in a season-long slump. Even after the two-hit game, he is batting only .175 after hitting .300 in his first seven seasons with the Cubs.

Sean Marshall (3-1), the fourth Cubs pitcher, worked two perfect innings, striking out four to take the win.

Dodgers 6, Astros 2

In Los Angeles, John Ely pitched his third straight game of six or more innings without issuing a walk, directing Los Angeles to victory over Houston and to its eighth straight win.

Ely (2-1) allowed two runs over seven innings and struck out eight. The rookie has faced 84 consecutive batters without issuing a walk.

Casey Blake and Blake DeWitt each drove in two runs for the Dodgers.

Houston starter Wandy Rodriguez (2-5) allowed seven hits in 6 2-3 innings. His only strikeout came against his first batter.

NMA thanks All Schools supporters



Northern Marianas Athletics would like to send a great big thank you and congratulations to all of the athletes

and coaches who participated in the 2010 McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championship held last week at the Oleai Sports Complex.

NMA would also like to acknowledge parents, spectators,

the general public, the *Saipan Tribune*, *Marianas Variety*, and KSPN Channel 2 News for their superb media coverage, and to each of the CNMI's private and public elementary, junior high, and high schools

for their awesome representation and school pride.

Sincere thanks to all of the government officials, and special guests who graced the 2010 McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championship, and

to all of the hardworking NMA volunteers, who dedicated their time to ensure another successful NMA event.

"Most importantly, special *si yu'uus ma'ase, olomwaay, gihilisoow, and maraming salamat po* to McDonald's of Saipan, JCA Incorporated president, and owner Joe Ayuyu, general manager and

owner Marcia "Ruri" Ayuyu, general supervisor Ana Olaes, and the entire McDonald's family for proudly contributing once again to the 2010 McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships and establishing their great legacy in athletics and the community, NMA said in a statement. (NMA)

FIELDERS

From Page 28

Manibusan thanked his fellow coaches, James Sablan and Pat Tenorio for their time, dedication, and commitment to the new team; adding that his players really enjoyed playing as a group and the chemistry that they have together posed a significant factor to their success.

The Fielders wasted no time in the top of the first and took an early two-run lead.

Shane Mendiola connected with a two-RBI single that brought in Juan Maratita and John Reyes who both drew leadoff walks.

Then after fending off the Brewers in the bottom half, the Fielders attacked again with three more runs in the top of the second.

Ryan Lisua hit a one-out single and scored off a passed ball.

John Reyes knocked in Eli Aughenbaugh who reached earlier with a single.

Then Ton Tenorio brought home Reyes with a base hit before getting hosed at second trying to stretch a double.

The score remained 5-0, Fielders, after a scoreless third, but in the top of the fourth, Ton Tenorio brought in two runners with a sacrifice fly ball.

Aughenbaugh and Maratita both came to the plate after an errant throw from the outfield.

In the bottom half, the Brewers offense finally showed up and trimmed the margin to 7-5.

Manny Sablan scored off an error after drawing a walk.

After Sablan scored, the Brewers loaded the bases and Vince Cepeda drew a walk that brought in Jess Mesa who

reached earlier with a single.

After Mesa scored, the Fielders called Shane Mendiola to the mound in relief for starter Ionis Rasa.

Mendiola plunked his first batter, Ed Kapileo, which gave Reno Celis, who reached with a walk, a free pass to the plate for the Brewers' third run of the inning.

Then Dave Kapileo scored off a passed ball and Ron Benavente singled home Cepeda before the Fielders retained their composure.

The Brewers came out on defense in the top of the fourth and retired the first two batters, but just when the game looked like it was going to get close, the Fielders rallied back with three more runs.

Lisua singled in Justin Reyes and then Ton Tenorio busted a two-run homer before the Brewers could stop the bleeding.

The Brewers tried to fight back in the bottom half, but were already showing signs of fatigue.

Dave Kapileo knocked in Manny Sablan who led off with a single and Jess Mesa singled and scored off an error.

Then with the score at 10-7, Fielders in the top of the sixth, the Fielders did not let up and turned it up another notch.

John Reyes led off with a walk, stole second, went to third off an error, and scored off a wild pitch.

After the walk, the Brewers called Ed Santos to the mound to relieve their starter, Jason Hayes.

Mendiola drew a one out walk and was brought in off a Jason Reyes triple.

Then Vince Sablan singled home Jason Reyes.

Justin Reyes reached with a single and with two outs, Ton Tenorio stepped up to the plate

and jacked a three-run homerun; his second of the night in back to back innings.

After the homer, the Brewers called Ben Duenas to the mound in relief for Santos to get the last out.

Now at 16-7, Fielders, it was all Fielders from here on out. The Brewers managed to score a run in the seventh and eighth innings, but the Fielders added three more runs in the seventh and another in the eighth.

The Brewers threw everything they had at the Fielders,

but the latter's hitting was simply on fire and they continued to run the bases aggressively even with the considerable lead.

Even though the Fielders worked very well as a unit to put up 20 runs, a couple of notables of the game included Ton Tenorio, who batted 3-for-5 with two homeruns, five RBIs, four runs, and one stolen base en route to winning the championship MVP. John Reyes, meanwhile, batted 3-for-3 with one RBI, five runs, three walks, and two stolen bases.

MBI

From Page 28

World Resort/Advance and Pacific Islands Club will square off in the second game for the second finals berth.

MBI marched to the next round after surviving McGraw-Hill's gallant stand. McGraw-Hill's defense forced the defending champion to a play a low-scoring game before Ivan De Vero, Noel David, and Pandio Muleta delivered the needed baskets in the homestretch to lift MBI to a three-point win.

With MBI failing to get inside the paint, McGraw-Hill slowly ate up the former's double-digit lead in the fourth quarter. A triple from Lawrence Buniag tied the game, 57-all, with less than

five minutes left on the clock.

McGraw-Hill had several chances to grab the lead, but Marlon Cabrera missed a couple of charities and the team faltered on several fastbreak plays.

A De Vero drive stopped the bleeding for MBI and then David connected on a triple entering the final two minutes of the match to give the defending champion more cushion. Muleta later scored on a layup and split his charities to complete an 8-0 run and put MBI on top, 65-57, with less than a minute left in the game.

Buniag canned another triple to cut the lead to five, but McGraw-Hill ran out of time to overhaul the lead and was forced to give up fouls to stop the clock. MBI nailed five more free throws to secure the

semis ticket.

In the second game, Wowie Abuel and World Resort outgunned AON/NJ Pro Plus in a shootout to notch the last semis seat.

Abuel sizzled for 54 points, hitting eight triples. He traded treys against AON's Bonbon Tamayo and Rodney Catalla, who combined for nine 3-pointers.

Abuel's best output came in the third when he drilled three triples and scored 15 points to give World Resort/Advance an 80-69 lead.

Tamayo and Catalla tried rallying back AON with their triples, as they hit two treys each in the fourth quarter, while Leo Factor also found his mark. However, AON failed to neutralize Abuel, who added three more treys in the fourth and

went 5-for-8 from the foul line to preserve the win.

First Game

MBI 70 – De Vero 22, Nonato 18, David 14, Muleta 10, Barbo 4, Trajano 2.

McGraw-Hill 67 – Mendiola 22, Mendez 20, Villagomez 10, Diaz 7, Cabrera 5, Guerrero 2, Villagomez 1.

Scoring by quarters: 13-12, 39-32, 51-42, 70-67.

Second Game

World Resort/Advance 109 – Abuel 54, Vinas 17, Ritual 16, Olaitiman 14, Espiritu 4, Navarro 3, Paras 2.

AON 102 – Catalla 31, Factor 28, Tamayo 27, Abuan 7, De Guzman 6, Manangan 3.

Scoring by quarters: 25-26, 45-52, 80-69, 109-102.

the trip, we plan to do some fundraising," added Aguon.

At the last Micro Games in 2006, the CNMI National Team went 4-1, but due to a crucial loss, was denied advancement into the finals.

For more information, contact NMC marketing coordinator Matthew C. Cabrera at 234-5498 or email matthewc@nmccnet.edu.

14 PLAYERS

From Page 28

2006 Micronesian Games that Saipan hosted.

Since tryouts, Aguon said practice sessions have been held a few times a week and starting this week, training sessions increased to five times a week at the NMC Gymnasium.

He added as the 2010 Micro Games draw nearer, practices will be conducted twice per day on Mondays through Fridays.

"Our team for the 2010 Micro Games consists of promising and talented individuals and I look forward to a good turnout in Palau this August," said Aguon.

The team's trip to the 2010

Micro Games will be mostly funded by the Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association. Cost per player is estimated at \$1,300, but with the assistance from BANMI and NMASA, players will have to pay only \$400 each out of pocket.

"To supplement the cost of

Calikano lose their last game, there could be tie for 10th place and last playoff spot. Mike Pangelinan paced 6-Pack with six RBIs, built on a 3-for-4 performance at bat. He added three runs and two homers.

After being shutout in the first two innings, SaiPal found its bearings at the bottom of the third inning, turning a 0-7 deficit to an 11-7 lead. J.D. Dikito blasted a three-run homer, while Payton Sakuma hit a two-run round-tripper to spark SaiPal's 11-run rally. SaiPal, which improved to a 15-4 mark, never relinquished the lead, as it shut out Ramblers in the last five innings.

Ramblers are already eliminated with their 3-16 slate.

A 10-run top of the first was all Natibu needed to control the match and wrap it up after four complete innings.

6-Pack 23, Berdax 13

In the first game, 6-Pack boosted its playoffs chances after a 23-13 victory over Berdax.

6-Pack now has a 10-10 slate, half a game behind Freedom Air (10-9) and Calikano (10-9). If Freedom Air and

SaiPal moved up to fourth place in the team standings, following a 16-7 triumph over Ramblers.

SaiPal 16, Ramblers 7

SaiPal moved up to fourth place in the team standings, following a 16-7 triumph over Ramblers.

ISLAND

From Page 28

Kent Kalen, J.R. Suel, and Ned Norita all went perfect at the plate, going 4-for-4. Kalen and Norita also scored five RBIs each, while Suel added three RBIs. Kalen scored three runs and two homers, Suel recorded four runs and three doubles, and Norita made three runs and one homer.

owner Marcia "Ruri" Ayuyu, general supervisor Ana Olaes, and the entire McDonald's family for proudly contributing once again to the 2010 McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships and establishing their great legacy in athletics and the community, NMA said in a statement. (NMA)

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"Most importantly, special *si yu'uus ma'ase, olomwaay, gihilisoow, and maraming salamat po* to McDonald's of Saipan, JCA Incorporated president, and owner Joe Ayuyu, general manager and

but the latter's hitting was simply on fire and they continued to run the bases aggressively even with the considerable lead.

Even though the Fielders worked very well as a unit to put up 20 runs, a couple of notables of the game included Ton Tenorio, who batted 3-for-5 with two homeruns, five RBIs, four runs, and one stolen base en route to winning the championship MVP. John Reyes, meanwhile, batted 3-for-3 with one RBI, five runs, three walks, and two stolen bases.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	Avg
Wade, MIA	5	62	27	166	33.2
Anthony, DEN	6	64	50	184	30.7
James, CLE	11	106	88	320	29.1
Bryant, LAL	10	95	64	269	26.9
Rose, CHI	5	57	18	134	26.8
Nowitzki, DAL	6	58	40	160	26.7
Durant, OKC	6	43	54	150	25.0
Williams, UTA	10	67	89	243	24.3
Richardson, PHX	10	77	31	219	21.9
Stoudemire, PHX	10	74	57	205	20.5
Westbrook, OKC	6	43	32	123	20.5
Nelson, ORL	9	64	35	184	20.4
Billups, DEN	6	37	37	122	20.3
Gasol, LAL	10	75	52	202	20.2
Boozier, UTA	10	89	19	197	19.7
Butler, DAL	6	43	25	118	19.7
Ginobili, SAN	10	58	58	194	19.4
Aldridge, POR	6	40	33	114	19.0
Duncan, SAN	10	78	33	190	19.0
Deng, CHI	5	37	19	94	18.8

FG Percentage

<

2010 McDonald's All School Athletics Championships

PHOTOS by ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Man'amko pose with their medals after joining the 60m run as guest runners.



Participants in the 3,000m race make their first turn at the track during the 2010 McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships held over the weekend at the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility.



Two runners in a neck-and-neck race in the 800m run.



A WSR runner passes the baton to a teammate during the 4x100m relay race.



Two runners lead in the 1,500m race.



A man'amko nears the finish line.



Douglas Dillay, right, of Kagman High School leads in the 400m run.



8-and-under runners at the starting line for the 4x100m relay race.



A Hopwood Junior High School student does the discus throw.



A Koblerville Elementary School student competes in the long jump.



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28 WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2010

Saipan Tribune Sports



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Fielders win SML championship

Complete comeback from 0-2 series hole vs Brewers

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After losing the first two games of the 2010 Saipan Major League championship best-of-five series, the Fielders won three in a row and took the deciding Game 5 in a most dominating fashion Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios ballfield.

Winning 20-9, this game would have resulted in a run rule on any other day. This is the first year for the Fielders to participate in the SML and after bringing home the championship on their maiden voyage it is safe to say that—yes they do have our attention now.

"Next year we will be changing our team name to the Young Guns," said Fielders head coach, Juan Manibusan.

See FIELDERS on Page 26



WALTER J. SUTHERLAND

After going down 0-2 in the series, the Fielders won the last three games of the best-of-five 2010 Saipan Major League championship series. They slammed the door on the Brewers, 20-9, during Monday night's deciding Game 5. Fielders players and team officials receive their championship trophy as they celebrate their victory at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

MBI, World Resort complete semis cast

MBI's R.J. Nonato, right, goes up for a layup against McGraw-Hill's Peter Mendiola, who later swatted the ball away during their playoff game in the Shirley's caging on Monday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Micronesian Brokers, Inc. boosted its title defense bid after advancing to the semifinals of the 2nd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League, following a 70-67 win over

McGraw-Hill on Monday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

Joining MBI in the semifinals and completing the Final Four cast was World Resort/Advance, which prevailed in the second playoff match of the night against AON, 109-102.

Tonight, MBI will face Aqua Resort Club for the first finals seat, while

See MBI on Page 26

14 players make grade for cage team

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tia de Pretil Fourteen players have been named to the CNMI National Team that will compete in the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau this August.

Of the number, only 10 will make the actual team with the other four serving as alternates.

Making it to the 10-man roster are Joe Villacrusis, Keone Chariton, Robert Naraja, Pete Iguel, Pete Mendiola, Jose Tumaquip, Jack Lizama, Gus Palacios, Jericho Cruz, and James Lee.

Quincy Johnson, Mel Manibusan,



WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
Members of the 2010 CNMI National Basketball Team include, front row from left, Robert Naraja, Joe Villacrusis, Quincy Johnson, Pete Iguel, Keone Chariton, and Jose Tumaquip. Back row from left, head coach Rufino Aguon, John Sablan, Jericho Cruz, Mel Manibusan, Jack Lizama, Pete Mendiola, and assistant coach Ed Manalili. Not pictured are James Lee, Gus Palacios, Dan Barcenas, and assistant coach Ray MacDuff.

Island Rebels clinch pennant

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Island Rebels claimed the pennant in Chamolian Softball Association's 2009 Budweiser Slow-pitch Softball League, following a thrilling 22-21 win over Chura on Monday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

Island Rebels finished the regular season with an 18-2 record, tying Natibu, but the former won the tie-break due to its 13-3 win over the latter last Friday.

A two-run homer each from Roy Celis and Mitch Aaron at the bottom of the seventh inning lifted Island Rebels to a close win over Chura.

Chura led, 21-17, when Celis hit a round-tripper and brought Ray Cepeda home. Then Toi Celis singled in B.J. Babauta to move Island Rebels within one, 20-21, before Aaron blasted a homer and drove the former home for the game-winning run.

Natibu 25, Team Fuegu 4

Natibu also won its last game in the regular season after routing Team Fuegu, 25-4.

See ISLAND on Page 26